TETRICAL WORKS 1942 40 OFFICIAL JOURNAL OFFICIAL JOURNAL

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS.

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THE ELECTRICAL



WORKER

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Affiliated with American Federation of Labor and all Its Departments.

OWNED AND PUBLISHED BY
THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

Edited by PETER W. COLLINS, International Secretary,

GENERAL OFFICES: PIERIK BUILDING
SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

Subscription, 25c per year, in advance.

This Journal will not be held responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

The tenth of each month is the closing date; all copy must be in our hands on or before.

Second Class privilege applied for at the Post Office at Springfield, Illinois, under Act of June 29th, 1906.



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THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

Second Class privilege applied for at the Post Office at Springfield, Illinois, under Act of June 26th, 1906

Vol. XII, No. 3

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., JANUARY, 1912.

Single Copies, 10 Cents 25c per Year, in advance



Reports of Officers ... and Organizers ...



The Wage Earners and the Employers

The typical American employer, in exercising the common sense and business sagacity required in successful management and in achieving a desired reputation for fair-mindedness, avoids placing himself among those disputatious irreconcilables, the exceptions in his class, who refuse to recognize that their extreme anti-union views are out of date. Consequently, as the organization of labor has developed in this country, the bulk of the employers in one occupation after another have openly accepted the trade union as one of the inevitable modern institutions—one which is an outcome of the new industrial conditions, a necesssary creation and refuge of the wage-workers, a legitimate order and body within our republic, covering a social territory lying beyond the dictator-ship of employing capital. The closing of that period in our industrial history in which the trade unions might possibly have been regarded by conservative employers as yet awaiting honorable standing with other recognized beneficent institutions ought to have been regarded by even them as arrived at the day that "Time was when President Taft said: everybody who employed labor was opposed to the labor union; when it was regarded as a menace. That time, I am glad to say, has largely passed away, and the man today who objects to the organization of labor should be relegated to the last century.'

Granted, President Taft did not explicitly set the seal of his approval on every feature that the trade union regards as tial to its functions. Nor do emission who recognize organized labor acquiesce with good grace in

every union regulation, but taking broad views of life and of the perplexities in the general industrial situation, they have learned that on the whole the union brings both to the employing and the working classes, as well as to the nation, results immeasurably better than the chaos of the labor market, the defenselessness of the wage-workers, and the silencing of the voice of oppressed labor where the masses are unorganized.

Granted, also, that in general the industrial peace which exists between organized wage-workers and their employers is recognized by both sides as really a phase of economic conflict; it is a truce, possible of indefinite duration, in which each has learned to respect the other. On both sides are men. Neither knows despot or serf. Both are included, to the extent of their trade contracts, in a wage-market democracy. The mutual attitude is far from indicating social ill-health. Both sides gain in the discipline consequent on learning through strife the wisdom of conciliation, on seeing facts as shown on the other side of the shield, and on hearkening on occasions to warnings in public opinion. The mental horizon of both employer and employe in that situation becomes sufficiently wide to permit of a clear survey of all the body of facts for and against either party. The organized wageearners and the organized employers may agree upon regarding each other as on different sides of the labor market, even, to an extent, as rivals in dividing the wealth they together produce, but they may yet have wisdom enough to stop short of declaring each other social enemies and showing themselves animated with the bitterness of a mutual hate or bent on exterminating each

other's organizations.

Not in a spirit of rancor and recrimination would a congress of American employers and employes meet today if it were truly representative-if, for example, it were composed of one wage-earning delegate from each of the railroad brotherhoods and one employer delegate from among the railroad managers closest to each of these, and also one delegate from each of the 115 international unions in the American Federation of Labor and one from the employers of each corresponding occupation. Such a congress might reasonably be expected to exhibit to the world a wealth of instructive experience, a healthy breadth of view and manly toleration, a habit of self-control, a desire for a clear understanding of the differences in principle between the two great human elements in industry. In the course of the proceedings of such a deliberative body it is certain the labor delegates would act under a sense of their grave responsibilities, while the extremists among the employers would be obliged, through the prevailing opinion in their own numbers, it can be believed, to drop from their case against unionism the sort of arguments certain radical attorneys and hasty tempered officials who speak for the few belated and contentious employers' associations nowadays rely upon to mislead the public.

What the latter can be truthfully charged with is narrowness, exaggeration in statement, lack of candor in argument, impracticability, and withal shortsightedness. They ignore, or at least give slight weight to, the fundamental economic causes for trade union principles and organization. They "harp on one string," presenting repeatedy in various forms their one set of partisan pleadings as if they thereby exhausted the whole subject at issue. Their task of trying to demolish the unions they carry on in terms of heat and hate, which usually betray misrepresentation. But, worse for them, as business men, they fail to win their case before the public and they lose in their fight on unionism.

Suppose that before a congress such as that we have imagined, a labor delegate were to make against one of the employers present the charges contained in the preceding paragraph? Could he substantiate them? Suppose he were to make them against Mr. John Kirby, Jr., President of the National Association of Manufacturers?

To begin, Mr. Kirby has signally failed to defeat American unionism, which surely has been his purpose, other than filling the air with plaint and denunciation. In one of his leaflets he expresses

his desire to see the American Federation of Labor "as dead as a mackerel," In his inaugural address in 1909 he said: "Today the life of the American Federation of Labor is hanging by a thread." But the report for 1911 of the Secretary of the Federation shows an increase of nearly 200,000 in the paid-up membership for the year, the total-the largest yet reached-now being 1,756,000. In another leaflet Mr. Kirby announces: "Why, even the Canadian unions have repudiated the methods of the American Federation of Labor," quoting in confirmation a "Grand Council of Provincial Workingmen" as deciding "in favor of cutting loose." But at the Atlanta Convention, as usual, Canada was fully represented, its delegates reporting unquestioned loyalty to the international body. In other leaflets Mr. Kirby refers to the Buck's Stove and Range Company's contest with union labor as if it were to be as uncompromising as his own. But the company is today on friendly terms with all the unions. He mentions approvingly a recent attack by "the Knights of Labor" on the American Federation of Labor. But at this showing of how hard pressed he must be for arguments, trade unionists merely smile and ask where those Knights are to be found. In another of Mr. Kirby's leaflets, which contains his address on taking the Presidency of the Manufacturers' Association in 1909, he quotes a magazine in calling attention to the fact that in 1906 and 1907 the International Typographical Union spent three million dollars on its eight-hour strike, the article saying, "they lost ground" in the first of these two years and in the second "threw into the same whirlpool," "with the dogged tenacity of a man who does not know he is defeated," the sum so expended. But that eight-hour strike was completely won. When it began the International Typographical Union had 46,000 members; it has now 51,000. These have gotten back in increased wages since the strike was closed all the sums it cost the union, several times over, besides enjoying the marked reduction of the workday. In most of his leaflets, Mr. Kirby, in unmeasured terms. attacks the National Civic Federation. But that organization gives no indication of being enfeebled thereby. Kirby in an address took the side of the employers against the shirt-waist strikers, citing with approval the dictum, "The Waist and Dress Manufacturers will never sign any union agreements." But they did, the last one among them. Again, Mr. Kirby enumerates the number of fights the Metal Trades Association claimed to have won over the International Association of Machinists. But, nevertheless, this union appeared at the Atlanta Convention with 671 representa-

tive votes, 50 more than it ever had before, indicating an increase of nearly 20 per cent in its membership in the last per control of the last year. Mr. Kirby seems to regard his favorite assertion relative to the proportion of union wage-workers to all the workers of this country as one of his strongest points, for he prints it at least a score of times in his addresses and leaflets. In his "Goal of the Labor Trust" he puts his figures thus: fact that a paltry 31/2 per cent of the workingmen of this country embracing the militant, discordant and disturbing element of society, should be permitted to dominate over industrial and commercial affairs as they have done is a disgrace to American business and to American manhood." But where is the industrial employer who is making believe that he has access to a labor market in which, as Mr. Kirby elsewhere nuts his proposition, "31/2 per cent of the workers" "coerce, intimidate, and brutally persecute the other 961/2 per cent?" Mr. Kirby's statements of this kind-typical of the premises on which he makes his usual absurd deductionscould not arouse any interest among the employers in the congress we have imagined, practical men as they would be. The bituminous mine operators present would know full well that the proportion of union miners runs from 60 to 75 per cent of the whole number; and the employing printers that more than 90 per cent of the available and competent compositors are union; even the waist and shirt manufacturers, in proper season, are made aware that not even 31/2 per cent of their employes are then nonunion. Mr. Kirby would in vain point out to his fellow employer delegates at the congress the millions of domestic servants, farm laborers, office clerks, and which they are commonly interested in unorganized casual workers as playing any part in the industrial market in which they are commonly interested in obtaining their skilled employes. these classes of workers the employers do not bestow a glance when choosing between union and non-union men, each for his particular industry. The momentous fact to industrial employers is that the unions master their respective divisions of the labor market and hold the labor in them on sale collectively. The unionists also speak for the non-unionists, who are unable to voice their own demands. either before the public, the legislative bodies, or the employers.

A minor point in the estimate of delegates to a mixed congress discussing economics, and yet a matter of some consideration among American gentlemen, might be made against Mr. Kirby should a labor delegate quote specimens of the billingsgate he habitually employs in his

peppery "literature:" "Loud-mouthed agitator and preacher of discontent; "yelpings of such men;" "labor demagogue;" "captured the Civic Federation, body, boots and breeches;" "no organization of men, not excepting the Ku-Klux-Klan, the Mafia, or the Black Hand society, has ever produced such a record of barbarism;" "fake union promoters;" "sinister threatenings of the labor trust:" "gab-fests;" "a fine bunch of reformers:" "a reverend demagogue" (Mr. Stelzle). It was such phraseology that brought from President-Emeritus Eliot of Harvard the suggestion, "Your words would carry greater weight with the American people if they were somewhat less intense."

Mr. Kirby would be asked to give names at once were he to assert before the congress we have imagined, what he has printed repeatedly in his association's leaflets, that "a man prominent in labor circles," said to him: "A labor union without violence is a joke," and that "a president of a labor union" said "The only way to make a boss to him: give us what we want is to tie him up in knots and beat hell out of the scabs who work for him." He would also be compelled to face the challenge of Samuel Gompers to produce his proofs should he repeat his quotation attributing to Mr. Gompers the declaration on one occasion that he "is the master of a million minds." Mr. Kirby could also be set right, on the spot, were he to say, as in his leaflets, that "John Mitchell has expressed in the strongest language his contempt for the decisions of the courts and his refusal to obey them," and that "Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison have openly defied the authority" of "the su-As all men preme judicial tribunal." may know, the basis of these last assertions is the fact that organized labor has asked for a decision by the highest court on certain decrees of a lower court. which may be in error. But all such talk by Mr. Kirby is recognized as mere campaign perversion and distortion.

Mr. Kirby's spirit, the tone of his utterances, his manner in expressing himself, and the plane of his argument, all would fail to awaken favorable response in a gathering of serious men representative of the two classes most closely interested in the social problems he has set out to solve in his flery and dogmatic These men could not accept Mr. Kirby's presentation of the economic question of trade unionism as either correct or adequate. The traditional methods of blind partisanship-which, chiefly, are to minimize the discussion of principles, to avoid, if possible, agreement between disputants as to the fundamental points at issue, and with wrath and fury to make the most of any weaknesses which may, with even faint color

truth, be fastened upon to discredit the other side—these are Mr. Kirby's sole methods. Fair minded and intelligent representatives of his own class, acting under obligations to their country, indeed to civilized society, would promptly see through his trick of putting his adversaries in a false position, discount his assertions, take his measure as an unfair pleader and a poor prophet and look elsewhere for a worthy champion. Indeed, in the actual course of events, that is what has taken place.

What, justly and logically, is the order of argument on the question of the trade

union?

Trade unionism is a natural consequence of the social conditions resulting from competition between wage-workers for employment. That is the primary, the basic, the comprehensive fact to be considered by every assemblage, every economic observer, every contestant on either side, when considering the question of organized labor. There is no other equally illuminating initial point for a discussion of the wage problem. this is true is accepted as an indisputable commonplace wherever men of affairs face men of labor in arranging terms for labor in the market.

Mr. Kirby's solution of the problem is that there must be no "interference with the natural law of supply and demand." He would have the sellers of labor ever at the mercy of buyers, whereas the trade union would put sellers on an equal footing with the buyers. The depths of deprivation and despair to which the mass of wage-earners may be carried by unrestricted competition among selves for the boom of work has been illustrated the world over, times with-The competing laborers out number. have been tantalized with a vicious circle of inapplicable or self-destructive palliatives for the persistent fact of general competition and its baneful effects. "Be thrifty" is a useless injunction either to the wage-earners out of work or to those whose gains at best fail to secure the standard of living of civilized beings.
"Be competent." "Be loyal to your employers.' "Be quiet." "Distrust agitators." All such admonitions have everywhere been listened to and followed by well-meaning, confiding, upright, industrious laborers, to find at last that while each in certain conditions may have its place in prudent conduct or wise self-guidance, all together-as in the case of the industrious, patient, self-denying, but starving sewing women-count for little in an overstocked wage market.

When is the wage-market overstocked? The answer is: Whenever a wage-worker's employer can tell him to be off if dissatisfied, there's another man waiting for his job. That fact makes the

employer the master. No individual in the mass of laborers can stand up for his own terms in employment when another, his equal, or anything like it, will accept lower terms. Moreover, the employer himself, whatever his just or generous inclinations, is made to bend to the law of competition in labor when his rival reduces the cost of production through working his employes longer hours than he would exact or for smaller wages than he would wish to pay.

Who does not know these truths? Who can not see that in respect to the actual contact between the buyers and sellers of labor they are all-inclusive? Who has not seen them exemplified, on a small scale as between two village shops or on a vast scale in mine, or iron works, or railroad, employing thousands of workmen? Who does not know that they have formed the riddle of economists, the vexation of philanthropists, the problem of problems for statesmen, the torture of toilsome wage-workers, the bases for the menace of social revolution?

Trade unionists every day overcome Mr. Kirby's "natural law of supply and demand" by a method equally natural. They refuse to sell their labor in competition. From the proposition that they shall not do so flow as corollaries the regulations by which the unionists forestall the buyers' methods of overstocking or undermining the labor market. They justify their rules by the necessity of self-preservation for their union. Their organization is the instrument indispensable in attaining their purpose—a welfare of the working classes impossible in a state of competition.

No congress of employers and employed, if honestly setting out to truth germane to their object, could possibly avoid debating this main principle of the labor question. They could never get away from it unanswered. All other phases of the subject are subsidiary to The character of the men in the labor movement, or of the men ambitious to be the champions among organized labor's enemies, is not pertinent to it. In a parliament studying the labor problem, economics coming separately and first, the enforced competition of laborers must be the overshadowing matter for consid-But Mr. Kirby and his kind igeration. nore it.

Why Mr. Kirby is conducting a losing fight is plainly to be seen. He has not won with the working classes, for the reason that all his arguments, when they come to the testing point, are but arguments for the restoration of competition in the labor market, and that condition is intolerable because destructive to the workers. He has not won with the employing classes for several reasons. The wise and experienced among them,

equally with the union men, regard the drift of his talk—has he any doctrines?—as antiquated, impractical, detrimental to society. A large proportion of them do not share his feelings of misery and pain when judging of the outcome of unionism. On the contrary, they pronounce for the unions. They would rather go with the union's sympathizers—the

Sale.

churches, the women's clubs, the law-makers, the organizations that strive for industrial agreement, all of which in their turn Mr. Kirby has rabidly denounced—than the way Mr. Kirby has chosen, the way of ceaseless conflict, hard feeling, hysterical lamentation, and foredoomed defeat.

-American Federationist.

Speech of Keegan

Delegate to A. F. of L. Convention on secession.

Delegate Keegan—Then we will discuss the motion as amended by the delegate. It is not often the occasion arises in this convention that provokes me to inflict myself on the delegates to say anything from the floor; but I have grown so utterly disgusted with this action in this convention, that I would dignify by terming a farce, that I feel it is about time something was said about it.

I have been attending conventions of the American Federation of Labor for about fifteen years, and this is the only incident I have ever known in all the jurisdiction and dual fights that have come before us where year after year the avowed enemy of disciplined trades unionism invaded this convention to get the floor. Had I been here I surely would have raised my voice in objection to it again taking place, and I want to do that now. It is an insult to the officers of the Electrical Workers' organization to year after year have these men here, after parading all over this country, not only condemning the Electrical Workers and their officials, but. as you heard this afternoon, President Gompers and every other official of the legally instituted trades union is not free from their malicious and scandal-They so far forgot themous tongues. selves, and we so far tolerated them, that we see them here this afternoon flagrantly violating the proprieties by not even asking the delegates to grant them the floor, but arising as though they had all the rights of a legal delegation to discuss this question. I am not surprised that they started in to usurp that right, when I take into consideration the toleration we have bestowed on them. A dual organization has sprung up in my own trade recently in sections of the country, and if this is tolerated I believe in future conventions my co-delegates and myself will be confronted with the spectacle of those men coming in with their scandalous literature, circulating the dirty stuff in this convention that is printed about the regular movement.

I do not agree with the amendment. I take it that, so far as the American Federation of Labor is concerned, use question is already settled.

We have an organization of Electrical Workers regularly chartered by the American Federation of Labor. They have been here with us in all our conventions. They have gained for the Electrical Workers whatever rights and privileges they now enjoy, and if these men are sincere, if there is sincerity in their membership and they want to be benefitted by the trade union movement of this country, there is their organization, let them go and get into it.

So far as I am concerned, I consider the question settled, and, for God's sake, let this be the last convention we will ever have to sit by and see the officers and delegates of a legally constituted trades union chartered by this American Federation of Labor have to take the condemnation and the scandalous accusations of men who have no right here

Reid's Big Beautiful Doll

J. J. Reid referring to the scabby local he and his henchman L. D. Lacy organized in Buffalo, N. Y., most of whom were employed by that firm of trades union Haters McCarthy Brothers and Ford, said that's my great big beautiful doll.

Here is a history of how he got this Beautiful Doll:

Some few years ago Local Union No. 41 of Buffalo, lost out in a strike for better conditions. The result of this strike disorganized Local No. 41, which for some time made little progress. Hard work on the part of the loyal members of Local No. 41 during the past two years resulted in the organizing of all shops in Buffalo with the exception of one, namely, McCarty Brothers and Ford. This firm got the contract for the work on the Lafayette Hotel and through the efforts of the Building Trades Council and the Central Trades and Labor Council of that city, the builders of this hotel required McCarty Brothers and Ford to

unionize their shop, which employed about eight union and about twelve non-union men. McCarty Brothers and Ford refused to unionize their shop, and the Central Labor Union instructed No. 41 to remove their men, they refused to obey the mandate of Local No. 41, and remained at work. No. 41 thereupon suspended them in accordance with the law, and McCarty Brothers and Ford were placed on the unfair list by the Central Trades and Labor Council, and Building Trades Council.

The contract for the work on this hotel was taken away from McCarty Brothers and Ford and given to a fair employer. Mr. Reid and Mr. Lacy, as usual, under such circumstances, appeared on the scene, organized the renegades of Local No. 41 and the non-union men in the employ of McCarty Brothers and Ford into a dual organization, thereby spoiling the chances of No. 41 in defeating the bitterest and most antagonistic employer it ever had to contend with. is plain to see from their actions in Buffalo that they not only co-operate with the scabs and non-union men, but also with the union fighting contractors, in order to carry out their campaign of disruption.

Among the considerations received for adopting this Beautiful Doll was the following agreement which was signed by Mr. Oliver Meyers and L. D. Lacy on December 6, 1911.

THIS WORKING AGREEMENT made and entered into between the ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF BUFFALO, N. Y., party of the first part, and LOCAL UNION NO. 232, I. B. E. W., of the same place, party of the second part, witnesseth, that in consideration of the agreements herein made, the parties hereunto agree as follows:

1st. This working agreement shall apply to electrical work undertaken by the members of the party of the first part.

2nd. This working agreement shall go into effect at once and remain in force until terminated by 30 days written notice from either party to the other.

3rd. Eight hours shall constitute a days work to be performed in nine consecutive hours; day shift to be between eight a. m. and five p. m.

4th. All work over and above eight hours shall be paid for at the rate of time and one-half, and all work done on Sundays, legal holidays and after 10 p. m. shall be paid for at the rate of double time.

The legal holidays recognized shall be New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas. 5th. The rate of wages for Journeymen Wiremen shall be as follows: Any man in the employ of the party of the first part, working as a Journeyman for his first year shall receive wages at the rate of \$3.00 per day; all men now in the employ of the party of the first part receiving \$3.00 per day to receive \$3.20 per day; all men now in the employ of the party of the first part receiving \$3.20 per day to receive \$3.40 per day; all men now in the employ of the party of the first part receiving \$3.50 per day to receive \$3.60 per day.

6th. No member of the party of the second part shall work for any employer for a scale less than that herein specified.

7th. No member of the party of the second part, while in the employ of any member of the party of the first part shall be allowed to do any electrical work on his own account.

8th. There shall not be any more than one Helper to every Journeyman on any job, and no Helper shall be allowed to work upon any job without a Journeyman Wireman.

9th. The term "Journeyman Wireman" shall mean a man who has worked at the electrical business for not less than four years, who shall be recommended by his employer and who shall pass a satisfactory examination before an Examining Board.

10th. Party of the first part agrees that its members shall employ members of the party of the second part as Journeyman Wiremen and Helpers to do Journeyman and Helper's work in preference to other parties so long as it may be able to supply the demands and requirements.

11th. Any workman who may be ordered on "out-of-town" shall be paid his transportation and board in addition to his regular wages.

We, the officers and representatives of the parties specified herein, approved of, and accept, all of the conditions of the above agreement and hereby sign same by authority possessed by us.

Dated this 6th day of December, 1911. ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASS'N.

By Emmet Fleming, Secretary. LOCAL UNION NO. 232 I. B. E. W.

By Oliver Meyers, Gen. Vice Pres.; L. D. Lacy, Pres. D. C. No. 5 1st Dist.

The Trades Unionists and the Electrical Workers of Buffalo are not going to tolerate Mr. Reid and his Beautiful Doll and the very near future will see him and his Farleyites leave Buffalo, and local No. 41 will be working in harmony with its employers under trade union conditions.

ANOTHER LIE NAILED TO THE CROSS.

J. J. Reid, M. J. Sullivan, L. W. E. Kimball and H. W. Potter in a report published in the Scandalizer, states in

"Upon notification we appeared before the committee and presented oral and printed evidence, Mr. Reid speaking for the delegation. F. J. McNulty, a member of the committee, spoke for the McNulty delegation. After the evidence was taken both delegations retired with exception of F. J. McNulty who remained in Executive Session with the committee."

This statement is an absolute falsehood. President McNulty waived his right as a member of the Building Trades Committee during the consideration of the Electrical Workers' controversy and stated so to the committee in the presence of the above mentioned gentlemen, and when the evidence was all in from both sides President McNulty left the committee room and did not return until after the question had been decided by the committee.

As proof of this statement we refer you to James A. Short, Stone Cutters; Frank Ryan, Structural Iron Workers; M. O. Sullivan, Sheet Metal Workers; John Donlin, Operative Plasterers; Wm. J. McSorley, Lathers; Wm. Tracey, U. A. Plumbers; Frank Feeney, Elevator Constructors; J. F. Kinsella, I. A. Steam Fitters; Geo. A. Hedrick, Painters and Decorators; O. A. Tveitmoe, Cement Workers; Paul Bianchi, Granite Cutters; D. D. D'Allesandro, Hod Carriers and Laborers; C. E. Fry, Machinists, who comprised the committee that considered the question.

NEW SHOPMEN'S LOCAL IN CHICAGO.

Local Union No. 713 (Shopmen) of Chicago, Ill., is progressing very fast, thanks to the loyalty of the Chicago Labor movement, which does not tolerate secession in any organization.

Local Union No. 376 which seceded recently was unseated without a dissenting vote on December 13th by the Metal Trades Council of Chicago and on December 17th the Chicago Federation of Labor unseated the delegates of Local No. 376 not a vote being recorded in the negative.

Our Local Union No. 713 is now affiliated with the Chicago Federation of Labor and the Metal Trades Council of that city.

Local Union No. 713 is now in control of all the shops formerly controlled by Local Union No. 376 with two excep-

tions and before another month is past we believe Local No. 713 will be in control of all of them.

BUILDING TRADES INJUNCTION FAILS.

On last Thursday, December 14, a preliminary injunction against the burgh Building Trades Council-President T. J. Williams and Business Agents M. P. Gordan of the Electrical Workers' No. 5 and E. F. Welsh of the plumbers and others-was issued by Judge Frazer restraining the Building Trades Council, its officers, servants or others from in any way interfering with the work being done by the Iron City Engineering Company on the First National Bank Building, and setting Saturday morning at 9:30 o'clock for a hearing in Common Pleas Court No. 2 whether the injunction should be made permanent.

It seems the reason for the injunction was from the fact that the Iron City Engineering Company, which has the contracting on the First National Bank for the installing of the electrical equipment, had in their employ some electrical workers who belonged to the Reid faction, so called, and the Building Trades Council notified the Thompson-Starrett Company that the members of the organizations affiliated with the Building Trades Council would not work on the First National Bank with any electrical workers not affiliated with their council.

Both sides were in court on Saturday morning at the appointed time, but the injunction was not made permanent owing to the fact that the Iron City Engineering Company had lost their contract on the First National Bank for the violation of the terms under which they had the same, which, as we understand it, was that they must employ men in harmony with the other men on the building.

This is a victory for the Pittsburgh Building Trades Council, as the electrical work on the First National Bank will be done by electrical workers affiliated with that body.—Iron City Trades Journal.

The electricians employed at the navy yard, Charleston, Mass., have organized under the banner of our Brotherhood, Local Union No. 714. We welcome them to our ranks and wish them "God's speed."

THE WORKER.

Twenty-five cents per annum. Get subscription blanks from Financial Secretary and forward same to the Editor, Pierik Bldg., Springfield, Ill.

Official Journal of the INTERNATIONAL

BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

Published Monthly.

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Seventh District - - - H. M. Scott Care Los Angeles Examiner, Los Angeles, Cal.

IMPORTANT.

Section 7 of Article 21 of our Constitution states:

The I. S. must publish in the Worker a list of all local unions official receipt serial numbers also stating if any are void and state their number, he shall also publish a correct directory of all L. U.'s with names and addresses of the following officers: P., V. P., R. S. and F. S. Same to be up to date.

Commencing with this number this section will be complied with to the letter. It is the duty of every member of our Brotherhood to scrutinize the receipt numbers so that they can assure themselves that their per capita tax has been sent in to the International Secretary. If a Financial Secretary of a Local Union through mistake or accident, destroys any particular receipt an explanation must be sent to the International Secretary of it and same will be published in The Worker.

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE WORKER.

Section 4 of Article 21 states: "The I. S. shall act as editor of the official journal under the supervision of the I. P. All members of the I. B. E. W. shall subscribe for same. Annual subscription, twenty-five cents."

If you have not already sent in your subscription do so immediately. The Financial Secretary of your Local Union has been sent individual subscription blanks which you can fill out and forward to the I.S. The Worker will be mailed to you on or about the 15th day of each month

To Press Secretaries: In the future we are going to publish under head of Correspondence and Local Union Letters, each month all letters sent to the editor by the Press Secretary. You should see to it that you have a letter in the office of the editor on or before the 10th day of each month.

There are many interesting incidents that occur within the jurisdiction of every Local Union in our Brotherhood each month that our membership at large would like to hear. Help us make our Worker interesting, instructive and educational by writing about those incidents each month.

Section 3, Article 21: "The I. S. shall publish the official journal under supervision of the I. P. It shall be conducted as a technical, economic and trade union publication. Communications shall be published at the discretion of the I. S. in accordance with policy as defined.

No article will be published in The Worker that is not in accordance with the above. Political or religious questions will not be tolerated.

Beginning with this issue The Worker will be mailed on or about the 15th day of each month and all matter for publication therein must be in the hands of the editor not later than the 10th of each month.

Any matter received after the 10th of the month for publication in The Worker cannot appear in that month's issue and unless it is of extreme importance it will not appear in the following. This rule is made so that the press secretaries of our Local Unions will have matters for publication in our office on or before the 10th day of each month.

Help us make our Worker a success by subscribing for same. Subscription price, 25c per year.



EDITORIAL



By PETER W. COLLINS

GOOD READING. Practical men seldom take advice—they are so taken up with their own affairs. That's what makes the practical man a narrow individual. He fails to spread out or rather

broaden.

He seldom keeps in touch with current events outside his particular

He reads his newspaper and enjoys a smoke but seldom picks up a good

book.

Now a library of classics is not necessary to any man but good reading is essential to most men. The current fiction is trash and weakens the mind.

Good reading strengthens the intellect and no man can afford to get rusty. Good reading is the oil of the mental machinery. Use it often.

It pays.

EFFICIENCY While the day of the "panacea" is here the man with NOT SO LOUD. the common sense is also with us.

Panaceas are all right as a mild sort of laxative but

they invariably end there.

Efficiency systems was the slogan. But its played out. It was a master stroke in its way as an advertising part of the propoganda of some great men.

It's a good sign in a way. The people listen to all the theories, find their merit if they have any, and then they vanish.

Now no one objects to real efficiency, but when a name is used to cloak the operations of certain men then its time to show them up.

But what's the use of further mention. The people have found it out, and while the people are oft accused of being asleep, yet they were wide-awake on this issue.

MEN WHO The real standard of manhood is character and STAND THE TEST. this is the test of men.

When character is the foundation the success is permanent. False standards among men may usurp the place of character for a time, but character in the end wins.

It can't be beat. It's the absolute test.

Now men who stand the test are the kind of men needed in all movements. In civic affairs we need them. In private affairs they are much in demand and the demand in both civic and private affairs is growing stronger all the time.

The man of character must be encouraged for though he seldom quits in any fight yet he should not be compelled to fight single handed.

He deserves the co-operation of all good men not as a privilege but as a duty. When all real men get this the right idea into their minds then results must be great.

Don't hamper the man who is doing right, but aid him.

Don't be peevish with silly criticism, but encourage him.

He is doing a real constructive work and he is building up for a better citizenship.

We need many men who can stand the test and we must never lower the standard.

Searching for success makes the chance of finding it slight.

The difficult things to do come easy in telling how they are done.

Time is wasted most when returns are not looked for.

Develope for the future while working in the present—it pays.

Knocking may bring results—but the wrong kind.

Constructive service is a real force in the making of men.

Judgment should never be perverted to prejudice.

The test of ability is not necessarily the gauge of character.

Men who do things seldom have time to glorify themselves.

Waiting for results is like waiting for opportunity—they seldom come without going after.

By F. J. MCNULTY CONSISTENCY, THOU ART A JEWEL.

The September Scandalizer printed the following:

WHITE SLAVER ON TRIAL. "LAW SHOUTERS" ARE MUM.

"The trial of James Finnernan, of the Electrical Workers' Union, charged with contributing to the delinquency of Evelyn Florin, which was to have been started yesterday in the criminal court in Chicago was continued until Oct. 16," says the Lake County Times, Hammond, Ind., Sept. 14, 1911.

At that time the case will go to trial, and it is expected that all of the sordid details of the case will be gone over in an effort to secure a conviction.

It will be recalled that Finnernan is one of McNulty's Gary lieutenants, who with Carmody abducted two girls from St. Margaret's Hospital, Hammond, early in the year, and that the Sisters of Mercy are the real prosecutors in the case.

During McNulty's Convention in Rochester, Carmody was on hand, alleged to be pleading for funds to save the crowd from the wrath of law and an outraged public, but the pleadings, like when their charter 571 was revoked, were unavailing.

Strange, isn't it, Gompers don't allow his henchmen to argue the Gary case any more?

The James Finnernan and the Carmody referred are allied with the Seceders, Mr. Carmody being or was Assistant Business Agent of Local No. 376 of Chicago.

Consistency, Thou Art a Jewel.

WHAT FOOLS WE MORTALS BE.

No. 376, Chicago, affiliated with the Brotherhood by unanimous vote and reported nearly 1,000 months' per capita tax on their 700 members early in November.—Editor November Scandalizer.

It will be interesting to hear how many members No. 376 will pay on for January. WATCH.

ANOTHER UNTRUTH NAILED.

The Seceders distributed their Scandalizer among the delegates to the Atlanta Convention, A. F. of L. Among other falsehoods it contained the following:

GLASS WORKERS SETTLE. GOMPERS CONFUSED.

How will the Gompers cabinet excuse itself for attempts after the Denver Convention to brand the Flint Glass Workers scabs now since the Flints have settled up with the Green Bottle Blowers through an agreement signed at Atlantic City Sept. 13, 1911? The latter organization, of which one of Gompers' cabinet, Hayes, is the president, agreed to the jurisdiction clause of the Flints, and in return it was mutually agreed that neither organization would take sides with an employer or manufacturer in the event of a dispute, nor should either agree to a wage reduction of which all rules to get an advantage in the factory. With such a amiable adjustment, it is expected that the Flints will again recover their A. F. of L. affliation.

President Dennis A. Hayes, President of the Glass Bottle Blowers' Association of the United States and Canada, arose on a point of personal privilege before the close of the Convention and denounced the above article as containing absolute falsehoods.

SECESSIONISTS, TAKE NOTICE.

President James A. Short of the Building Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, referring to dual organizations in his report to the Atlanta Convention said:

DUAL ORGANIZATIONS.

There is a subject which must cause us all great concern, and that is the dual organization that some of our trades have to contend with; the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and Stone Cutters being special cases which I have in mind at the present time. This condition should end, and at once, for the longer they are permitted to exist the greater encouragement we give designing employers to organize more and more dual associations, and no one knows what trade will be singled out for the next attack. Now is the time to take decisive action and for all time stamp out this intolerable condition, and I herewith recommend that this subject be dealt with in no uncertain manner by this Convention.

The Committee on President's Report to which this subject was referred, reported as follows:

Dual Organizations.

The President's report upon this subject is concise and emphatic, and your committee recommends that members of dual organizations be treated as non-union men and that Local Councils be instructed to take proper action in the premises consistent with Trades Union principles wherever possible.

The report of the committee was adopted by unanimous vote.

We wonder what the leaders of the Secessionists will have to say about this action in view of the fact that they have been assuring their followers that they were going to be recognized by the Atlanta Convention.

The above rebuke administered by the unanimous vote of the Convention of the Building Trades Department, following the rebuke the Secessionists received in the Convention of the American Federation of Labor, where they could only muster fifteen votes, after a campaign of slander, lies and misrepresentation, lasting over three years, should convince those that are following them that they have been misled and lied to and that the labor movement, big as it is, is not large enough for a seceding organization of any trade.

THE RIGHT TO STRIKE

By W. M. REEDY

In Great Britain an attempt is to be made to prevent strikes, by conciliationa euphemism for arbitration, as it seems The Government has published a provisional list of the members of the new Industrial Council, which is, in effect, a National Conciliation Board. The council consists, in the first instance, of thirteen representative employers and an equal number of leading trade unionists, who will hold office for a year. Their chairman is Sir George Askwith, the most famous of industrial peacemakers, and he will bear the title of Chief In-The council is dustrial Commissioner. to take voluntary action in the composing of disputes in the leading industries or in ancillary trades, before or after the breaking out of actual war, and its main function, according to the Liberal Nation, will probably be to bring the parties together and to smooth away difficulties of procedure. Its personnel on both sides is powerful and solid, and on the whole the reception on both sides is friendly. The advance section of labor is critical, on the ground that its intervention will mar the effectiveness of a strike, and the General Federation of Trade Unions, an experienced body, takes this ground and also complains of lack of representation.

The settlement of strikes, or attempts thereat, has heretofore been part of the duties of the Board of Trade, but this, in addition to other duties, wore out the Nominally the new office remembers. mains attached to the Board of Trade, as some Minister must be responsible for it in Parliament, but probably in practice there will be little if any interference with its work. There was a suspicion of politics whenever the Board of Trade took up strike matters. The head of the Board, being a member of the Cabinet, was always accused of playing to the groundlings. The ultra Tory London Saturday Review says of the Board: "Its work, from the nature of the case, must essentially be preventive; it is in no sense an arbitration panel. It may, and possibly will, be convened two or three times a year for general discussion, but its great value is through its members to be the eyes and ears of the industrial world, to see signs and to hear grumblings and mutterings long before real friction comes, to anticipate, and so to prevent trouble. It will embody that rather elusive but very strong factor in English life—public opinion, and any attempt on the part of employers or employed to pass it by will meet with instant public disapproval. Halcyon days no one can prophesy, but even if the new conditions are means of preventing one great strike only the change will have been justified. But there is a big fight Modern trades unionism needs ahead. to purge itself of disloyalty to its own leaders. In many cases a minority of extremists, judging rightly the apathy of the bulk of its fellow members, has captured the machine and used its power to engineer a strong political alliance with the Socialistic group. At last, however, the quieter and more solid element seems to be breaking through the froth. Trade unionists are at the parting of the ways; face to face with a question they can not They must either accept the evade. principle of collective bargaining or cease to meet the employers. There must be some definite understanding that their leaders have authority not only to make agreements, but to bind their followers. The only alternative is the hopeless one of indiscriminate and unreasoned striking. They must make up their minds whether the unions are to be real trade societies, honestly struggling to improve the conditions of labor in their trades, or simple political machines masquerading as workmen's associa-

This, be it repeated, is Tory sentiment. Toryism is hostile to Labor in politics. Therefore it welcomes the Board, as possibly a means to getting Labor out of politics. Labor has gone largely Socialist in Great Britain, and this accounts for the refusal of workers to abide by their union leaders as distinct from Socialist agitators. It is hard to see how the arrangement of a Conciliation Board is going to work out if it shall have no power to enforce its decisions or rulings -for it must decide something in each The talk of preventing trouble, without some element of arbitration entering into the action, is altogether ab-And Labor Unionism is not going to back out of politics. Rather it will go further into politics. And the deeper it goes into politics the less likely it will be to stand for coercion into collective bargaining. Labor will not give up "the right to strike," nor should it do so.

"The fundamental problem of industry, after all, is not merely," says the Nation, "to secure uninterrupted regularity in business, but to gain for the mass of the people continuous employment at a living wage." And in England, as shown by the figures given by Mr. Seebohm Rowntree in the current number of the Contemporary Review, "a substantial proportion of the working classes, even of those in regular employment, and while in such employment, do not earn enough to provide sufficient food to maintain a family of two adults and three

children in health. This is a perfectly definite denial of the existence for this part of the working class of a living wage, and until the living wage is attained labor conditions will be, and ought to be, in a state of unstable equilibrium. "That combination alone has force enough to restore the equilibrium would be a rash assertion. Much will also have to be done by fiscal measures, which will either lighten the burden of house rent by bringing land into the market and by reducing the pressure of rates on building, or will restore to the worker, in the form of provision for sickness and unemployment, a portion of that which he expends on rent. hitherto, apart from abnormally sweated industries, the State has not attempted to touch wages directly, and the work of raising the standard has been left to voluntary combination. This is why every careful student of our industrial conditions is forced to attach such importance to the principle of combination, with its corollary, the ultimate right to strike. This is why we are bound to resist all proposals, however plausable, for knocking its one ultimate weapon out of the hands of labor, or paralyzing its arm in the use of it.'

President Taft, following the lead of the President of the French Republic, has gone on record, as to the proposal to unionize the post office employes, to the effect that such organization is not permissible, because the Government can not recognize the right to "tie up" such a utility. Winston universal Churchill, in England, as Home Secretary, now First Lord of the Admiralty, in the same vein, declared that in a service of the first necessity to society, like the railway system, the right of collective bargaining must be partially withheld. The Nation admits that the exercise of such a right may be fraught with the gravest inconvenience, but the question is, what equivalent the State will or can give. "The principle does not apply to railway men alone. It applies, for instance, with almost equal force to coal miners, whose organization is far more complete than that of the railway men, and who could, if they were resolute, bring about a stoppage not only of the railways, but of all industries that depend on the supply of coal. If coal miners and railway men are not to defend themselves by combination, how are they to be defended? It is easy to say that in an ideal State their interests would be safe in the hands of an impartial authority representing an enlightened public opinion. But in an ideal State all things are easy. The hard fact remains that, at present, we have not evolved any such organ of protection for the rights of workers, and are not, in fact, within sight of any such achievement. Until the time arrives, until Mr. Churchill, or another, can formulate the scheme which will guarantee to the men on whose work we all depend conditions of employment which they can recognize as fair, they must rely on their own strength."

These considerations apply here not less forcibly than in Great Britain. We hear a great deal here of compulsory arbitration, but Mr. Gompers, Mr. Mitchell, and others stand out for "the right to strike." We can not deny that right. Will it be abused? Yes, but at the striker's peril of lost pay and lost job. There is a deterrent of strikes. We must not hastily suppose, says the Nation, that "to insist on the right of striking is to leave industry at the mercy of hot-headed, selfwilled men. To do anything effective these men have to convince great numbers of their fellows of the necessity of 'clemming.' The appeal is to the tightened belt. Now, in all ordinary industrial disputes, it is the workman alone who does the 'clemming', and the rest of us look on, annoyed, perhaps, but well fed. If the trains cease to run, we, in turn, are threatened with 'clemming,' and we see, even afar off, how very unpleasant it is. Let us rest assured that the individual striker who knows from the moment that he lays down his tools that the hour of 'clemming' it at hand, is not going repeatedly to throw them down in a hurry, nor will he leave them down without a motive. He may make mistakes en masses now and again, but he has a very stern schoolmaster, with a very long rod. ready to lash him into the acknowledgment of error." In short, the workingman will not get what is coming to him unless he fights for it, and he must learn to fight for that only and to fight fair. Conciliation or arbitration is not the cure for labor trouble. There is no cure but justice, and that denied must be fought for.-American Federationist.

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICITY. Richmond, Va.

W. H. Thompson, City Electrician. Spergho Bows, City Electrical Inspector. Office: Fourth Floor, City Hall.

"B."

AN ORDINANCE.

(Approved May 14, 1906.)

To require a license of all Electricians and a license and bond of Electrical Contractors, and to prescribe certain rules, regulations and conditions for the doing of electrical work in the City of Richmond, and to impose certain penalties for violations thereof.

Be it ordained by the Council of the

City of Richmond-

1. Every person desiring to do work as an electrician within the City of Richmond shall, within thirty days after the passage of this ordinance or before obtaining a license as hereinafter provided, make written application to the City Electrician for an examination as to his proficiency and capacity to do such work. Said examination shall relate to the knowledge of the applicant as to electricity, and shall be practical as well as theoretical, and if the applicant shows himself competent and qualified to perform electrical work, the said City Electrician shall deliver to the applicant a certificate to that effect, which certificate shall entitle the said applicant to obtain from the City Treasurer a license upon payment of a license fee of one dollar.

2. Every electrical contractor doing work in the City of Richmond shall obtain a license, and the fee therefor shall be twenty-five dollars, which shall be paid into the treasury of the city before such license shall be effectual. Said license shall be issued by the City Treasurer upon the payment of the fee above mentioned. Any person, firm or corporation found doing work in the city without such license shall be subject to a fine of one hundred dollars, or imprisonment for thirty days, or both. Licenses granted under this ordinance shall be for one year only, and renewals of the same may be secured upon payment of the license fee without examination.

3. Every electrical contractor taking out the license required by Section 2 of this ordinance shall give bond to the City of Richmond in the sum of one thousand dollars in some trust or guaranty company, acceptable to the City Attorney, to indemnity and save harmless the City of Richmond as well as any other person from all expense and damage that may be caused by any negligence or defective or inadequate work done under their license, and where any electrical work has been done by an electircal contractor under this ordinance which shall be deemed defective by the City Electrician, and who, after thirty days' written notice from said Electrician, shall fail to revise or put said work in proper condition to the satisfaction of said Electrician, then and in that case the principal and surety on said bond shall be liable for and shall pay so much on account of said bond as may be necessary in order to perfect such work, and shall also pay any and all damages which may be occasioned to any person by reason of such defective work.

4. All electrical construction and all material and appliances used in connection with electrical work, and the operation of all electrical apparatus within the limits of the City of Richmond, shall conform to the "Rules and Requirements of the National Board of Fire Underwriters" for the installation of wiring and apparatus for electrical purposes as they

are now established, or may hereafter be amended; and the said Rules and Regulations are hereby adopted and approved and shall have full force and effect as if set forth in this ordinance.

6. No repairs, changes or additions shall be made in or to wiring already installed in buildings without a permit therefor from the City Electrician, nor shall any change be made in any isolated or private plant without first obtaining a

permit from the City Electrician.

7. It shall be unlawful, except as hereinafter provided, for any person or persons erecting scaffolding, putting up signs, altering or changing plumbing, repairing or painting buildings, or in any other way to cut, break or in any manner interfere with the arrangement of any electrical wires whatsoever inside or outside of any building under a penalty of not less than five nor more than ten dollars, each violation to be a separate offense.

8. Whenever builders or persons engaged in repairing, painting, putting up signs, repairing or altering plumbing, etc., find it necessary to remove, alter or change the location of wires on or in buildings in prosecuting their work, the owner of such building or the contractor engaged thereon shall serve the City Electrician with written notice at least twenty-four hours before such contemplated work is begun, and it shall be the duty of said electrician to direct the owners of such wires to remove the same, and upon their failure to do so within fortyeight hours after such instructions, the obstructing or interfering wires may be removed by the contractor under the supervision of the City Electrician.

9. On any pole of any electric light, power, street railway, telephone or telegraph company used jointly by two or more such companies, each company shall be allotted a special zone and shall confine its wires to that zone. Spaces shall be measured from the tops of poles downward, and the upmost zone on every pole shall be at all times reserved for the

free use of city wires.

10. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to increase the size of any fuse above the rated capacity of the wire which it is protecting in or on any building in the City of Richmond.

11. It shall be the duty of the Electrical Inspector, at suitable intervals, to make inspection of old work in the City of Richmond, and when defects are discovered in such work, to require the removal of the same and the installation to be brought up to a condition of safety within a reasonable time, the extreme limit not to exceed twenty days.

12. In any case of failure to comply with the provisions of this ordinance, the City Electrician shall have authority, af-

ter due notice, to cut off lights or current in any locality concerned and to enforce discontinuance of same until said requirements are complied with.

13. Any person violating any provision of this ordinance for which no specific penalty is imposed shall be liable to a fine of not less than two dollars nor more than twenty-five dollars for each offence, recoverable before the Police Justice.

14. All ordinances, parts of ordinances,

A BRUTAL ATTACK.

Traction Sluggers Seriously Cripple Amalgamated Association Official and Beat Up Another Organizer.

While on their way from the Central Labor hall in Toledo, Ohio, a few nights ago, Besin Orr, treasurer of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Men, and John J. Scannell, organizer of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, were assaulted by three thugs alleged to be in the employ of the local traction company. Resin Orr was struck with a "billy,' so the attending physician claims, and the sight of one of his eyes has been permanently destroyed. Scannell was knocked down and kicked, but his injuiries are not considered serious. Fortunately one of the sluggers was caught, and on preliminary hearing was bound over in the sum of \$1,000. Orr has been organizing the men employed by the traction company and the company, as usual, are pursuing the tactics commonly employed by street railway companies to thwart organization of their employes.

COLLUSION WITH COURT ALLEGED.

In the celebrated contempt of court case, in which a number of striking coal miners were sentenced to jail, the miners by their attorneys, went before the supreme court in Denver and succeeded in having granted a supercedeas, and the miners were released pending a review by the higher court. Before the hearing was held the attorneys for the coal operators appeared in the lower court and made a motion whereby Judge Whitford This move has released the miners. been made for the purpose of forestalling the miners' endeavor to get a decision from the supreme court on the constitutional rights of citizens in constructural contempt cases, the case now coming under the moot class.

Hod carriers of Waco, Tex., have seerred 25 per cent increase without ceslion of work. resolutions or parts of resolutions, in so far as the same may conflict with the provisions of this ordinance, are hereby repealed.

15. This ordinance shall be in force from and after its passage.

(Editor's Note:) We will print from time to time other city ordinances governing electrical installation, construction and maintainence for the information of our membership.

WABASH RAILROAD MECHANICS SUCCESSFUL

The federated organizations in the mechanical departments of the Wabash R. R. effected a system federated agreement with the company, on December 15, by which the federation was duly recognized and through which many concessions in the way of improved shop conditions were granted by the company. This federation agreement also included members of Machinists' Helpers Local Union No. 12,795 of Decatur, Ill.

INJUNCTION LIMITATION MEASURE.

The Wilson bill to regulate the issuance of injunctions has not so for had any hearings during the present Congress. While, of course, hearings on this question have been had so often and so continuously from year to year that there should be no further hearings needed, yet there is no time to lose and an inquiry from your Congressman as to what is being done will be wise and timely. The bill is known as H. R. 11032.

PRINTERS GET INCREASE.

The daily papers of St. Paul, Minn.. have signed a new scale of wages with the Typographical union, granting a raise in wages and other substantial advantages. The men who work as "extras" are to receive 25c per day additional compensation over the scale providing they work less than four days per week; while if working four days or over they are to The piece receive the regular scale. scale on machines has been raised from 10c to 11c per thousand for seven point type on evening papers, and from 11c to 12c per thousand on morning papers. The general time scale for machine operators and floor men is 55c per hour for day work and 62 1-3c per hour for night work.

Cement workers of Auburn, N. Y., have secured increase in wages and shorter workday without strike.

427 23852

23896

31975

217356

OCAL Union Official Receipts up to and including the 10th of the current month

 470
 165321
 165358

 481
 222976
 223280

 489
 17455
 17478

 501
 54694
 54746
 54746 126009 126033 34186 Members' receipts received from local unions from Dec. 1-Jan. 10:130664 130681 3912 21499120051 120079 35900 35920 10997 11098 36638 36639 581 38284 38319 92944 92956 13995 591 30963 31010 19210 19250 592 94642 94658 94501 94545 32781 124811 124959 40277 40280 61 27476 617 5063 5119 631 29791 29827 42117 42128 28409 28565 27768 27896171026 171285 43291132501 132580 56398179428 179558 664 5810 8616 28751 28780 26141 26172 65986 77312 66000 77318199510 199679 81096 81106 90900 91082 84775 84801 69767 69783 96978 97101 93104 93108129957 130500 13071 133501 135417 695 49444 49457 696 141 89554 89632 93121117001 117033 27206 27252101306 10132518473 18476 105891 105950 18772 18781 703 20355198813 198820 78816119678 119754 207001 207054139547122320 122755 76501 76545 Missing Receipts. L. U. No. 5—Nos. 21475, 21476, 21477, 21478, 21479, 21480, 21481, 21482, 21484, 21485, 21486, 21489, 21491, 21492, 21493, 21494, 21495, 21496, 21498. 14496 82501 82644 104985 105000 22771 L. U. No. 52-Nos. 124869, 124870. 22783 L. U. No. 96-No. 179509. 277 23213 L. U. No. 190—No. 78799. L. U. No. 233—Nos. 19392, 19393, 19394, 52589 51441 51465 19395. 94298 L. U. No. 419-Nos. 10481, 10482, 10483, 94315 26316 10484, 10485. 26327 L. U. No. 442—No. 217187. L. U. No. 481—No. 223236. L. U. No. 501—Nos. 54671, inc. 54693,120782 120832 54696, 54699, 54700, 54701, 54702, 54712, 28564 54713, 54714, 54715, 54717, 54718, 54719,161303 161343 54720, 54721, 54722, 54724, 54725 inc. 54740, 54742, 54743, 54744, 54745, 54747, 29795 29800 34976 35126 54748, 54749, 54750. 30714

L. U. No. 536—No. 120075. L. U. No. 581—Nos. 38285, 38286, 38287, 38289. L. U. No. 617—Nos. 118544, 118545. L. U. No. 643—No. 42116. L. U. No. 680—Nos. 84797, 84798. L. U. 695—No. 21953. L. U. No. 702—Nos. 105934, 105937, 38, 42, 45.

DEATH CLAIMS.

C. R. Forster—L. U. 134, Chicago.
T. F. O'Brien—L. U. 134, Chicago.
J. Lawson—L. U. 85, Schenectady.
A. J. Theriault—L. U. 134, Chicago.
W. A. Haerlin—L. U. 134, Chicago.
W. A. Haerlin—L. U. 419, New York.
Thos. Reineke—L. U. 534, New York.
W. H. Peterson—L. U. 419, New York.
E. J. Conlin—L. U. 534, New York.
T. E. Woods—L. U. 49, Chicago.
Wm. Martin—L. U. 679, Philadelphia.
Emil Johnson—L. U. 98, Philadelphia.
John Able—L. U. 565, Schenectady.
James G. Smythe—L. U. 20, New York.

Result of Referendum.

Cor	adopting constitution6438
Tor	not adopting constitution 370
FOI	moving I. O. to St. Louis4153
For	not moving I. O. to St. Louis2239
For	not moving 1. O. to St. Louis2200
For	convention city, Boston3707
For	convention city, Minneapolis2826

PROPOSED BILL

For Creation of Director of Industrial Education in the State of Ohio.

Section 1. The governor, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, within three months after the passage of this act, shall appoint a director of industrial education, who shall be experienced and skilled in this work, and who, together with the commissioner of common schools and the director of agricultural education, shall form a bureau of agricultural and industrial education in the office of the commissioner of common schools. If the senate shall not be in session at the time when the first appointment is made, the said office shall be filled by appointment in the manner provided in Section 12 of the General Code. Vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the governor for the unexpired term, subject to confirmation by the senate, and the appointment shall be in force until acted upon by the senate.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the director of industrial education to study the industrial, domestic science and vocational needs and conditions of the state with a view to organizing such departments in the schools of the state in actional with the industrial character with different districts; to work in con-

junction with the other state agencies to create a more wholesome and intelligent respect for the industries, and in favor of industrial and vocational education; to co-operate and assist public school officials in working out suitable courses of study, in obtaining proper and efficient equipments, in securing competent teachers, and in the training of capable teachers of industrial, domestic science and vocational subjects; and to perform such other duties as may seem to be desirable for the education and benefit of the industrial classes of the community.

Section 3. The director of industrial education shall be under the immediate supervision of, and shall report to, the commissioner of common schools.

Section 4. The director of industrial education shall receive a salary of twenty-five hundred dollars a year, and an allowance of seven hundred and fifty dollars for traveling expenses, and shall have together with the directors of agricutural education, the joint services of a stenographer in the office of the commissioner of common schools, or in such office as may be assigned to them for their use. The stenographer shall receive a salary of sixty dollars per calendar month.

Section 5. The sum of three thousand nine hundred and seventy dollars shall be, and hereby is, appropriated for the carrying into effect the provisions of this act for the year 1912-1913, and the same amount for the same purpose for the year 1913-1914.

STRIKE OF MACHINISTS.

Refusing to comply with orders recently issued by the company, compelling one man to operate two machines instead of one as heretofore, a number of mechanics employed in the milling department of the Standard Roller Bearing Company of Philadelphia, Pa., have gone out on strike. The strikers say that it was impossible for the men to comply with the demands made by the company.

CONVICT LABOR.

The House Committee on Labor at its regular meeting Dec. 19 decided to report favorably upon the Convict Labor bill, H. R. 5601. This bill is being strongly urged by labor. It is hoped this measure will be passed by the present Congress and thus relieve free labor from the exacting competition with contract convict labor.

Bindery Women's Union of Raleigh, N. C., has gained 10 per cent increase without strike.



OBITUARY



Schenectady, N. Y., Jan. 4, 1912.

Mr. Peter W. Collins.

Dear Sir and Brother:

The following is a copy of resolutions of respect to our late Brother Frederick Granmann:

Whereas, The Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has taken from our ranks our beloved brother, Frederick Granmann, one who we held in the highest esteem.

Resolved, That we the members of Local No. 267, I. B. E. W. drape our charter in mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That we extend our heartfelt regrets to his sorrowing family, the same to be spread on the minutes of our local and published in the daily papers.

Signed:

B. A. Cawley, Pres.

A. V. Gould, Sec., pro tem.

Yours fraternally,

A. V. Gould, Sec., pro tem.

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom to call from our midst our worthy brother, John J. Reynolds, who, at one time was Fifth Vice-President of our International organization, and who has been a hard and earnest worker in the cause of Unionism; therefore be it

Resolved, That we extend to his sorrowing wife and family our heartfelt sympathy in their great loss of one who was dear to them; and be it further

Resolved, That we drape our charter in mourning for a period of thirty days, and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved family, a copy to be spread upon the minutes of our Local Union, and a copy sent to our official journal for publication.

E. M. Stanchfield,H. A. Gansmoe, President,Otto Elker,

Committee.

Dated Nov. 28, 1911.



American Federation .:. of Labor News .:.



Labor's Position Lawful and Progressive

We have nothing to hide. We are ready at any time for the agents of the law to begin investigating. Files, records of all kinds, account books—everything in documentary shape is open to them. All that has been printed, or spoken, or written to our correspondents is subject to their inquiries. Every act of every official may be freely looked into. No one is going to dodge or run away. Whatever can be done to aid the law will be done at these offices.

This is our reply at headquarters of the American Federation of Labor to the clamor to get at "the men higher up," to the repeated announcements in the press of a "nation-wide investigation by Federal officials," to the assertions that behind the McNamaras were men standing high in the councils of labor.

How to make our language on this point more sweeping we do not know. We could not do it in columns or pages. We therefore consider the point disposed of in so far as it relates to our attitude regarding the investigation for which some men are calling.

As to our position on the McNamara case, it is given in the statement which was sent out to the press on December 9, and which we reproduce on other pages in this issue of The American Federationist. We have seen no criticism of that statement which should cause it to be changed. We stand by every word of it.

As affecting the Executive Council, American Federation of Labor, the officers of the international trade unions, and the active labor men throughout the country who took up the defense of the McNamaras, the gist of the outcome of the case is, in what was a mystery they were deceived.

As to that part of the public which sided against the McNamaras—or was it against labor?—in a case which was a mystery, they knew no more, and no less, than the people who were deceived.

As to the future, how is trade unionism to be affected? With respect to this question we have looked for light from the press and in the letters coming to us in quantities from all parts of the country. What lessons are to be derived from this case, which is one of abnor-

malities. What illuminating suggestion has been sent in, by friend or enemy? Is organized labor to depart from its regularly adopted policies; and if so, why? Where lies a better course than that which it has followed?

Nothing new has come, in reply to these queries. Among the intense participants in the social conflict, the same groups are but reiterating their wellknown sentiments. What could be expected from the National Manufacturers' Association, their agents and hirelings, but precisely what they are sayingwhich is merely what they have been saying? What from the Socialists except to employ the occasion for votecatching? What from such reactionary organs as the New York Sun but diatribes covering half the editorial page? So long as these declared enemies of the trade unions are what they are, and unionism is what it is no help can come from them to the labor movement.

From the social elements that stand somewhat apart from the wage conflict, there have usually come merely the suggestions of partly informed observers. Ought our Federation at once change its offlicials? Some part of the daily press, seeking to create a popular cry, calls for this move. That is worth no attention. Ought our Federation forthwith change its policies? The question in reply must be, Which of them? Each represents the wisdom derived from experience.

A few humanitarians are declaring that a unionism must prevail which is grounded on "industrial liberty." It will have to be a new unionism with new unionists—and where are they to be found?—for the deceits in the catchwords "industrial liberty" are known to all wageworkers who have suffered from the unending competition which is an inseparable feature of a so-called "free-labor market."

As to the critics of our Federation's officers, most of them move in a fundamental error. They assume that the separate trade unions, in their organization, work and affairs, are controlled, directed, supervised from our Washington center. This is not in the least so. To the national (or international) unions there is

nothing "higher up." With respect to their routine procedures, their conventions, and their dues, assessments, benefits, not one of them is subject to orders from the Federation offices. They are autonomous. All of them are in the Federation under certain general regulations, chiefly such as relate to character of membership, "jurisdiction" (the prevention of overlapping), the avoidance of duplication of effort and organization, and the adoption of methods for union agitation and education. By a vote of representatives in federation conventions the Federation, can for certain purposes only, impose a slight assessment, a step taken on the rarest occasion. The books of the Federation show how funds raised in this manner, as well as through the regular dues, are expended. They are published in detail in every issue of the American Federationist.

So far as can be seen, at the present stage of this emergency, the friends of our labor movement, those among the general public whom organized labor has learned to trust, are standing with us, steadfast. To their minds nothing has occurred to discredit the established principles, the accepted policies and procedures, or the general body of officials, of the trade union movement. What has happened has been a deplorable incident, a misfortune, an exceptional course of action, but which does not touch the essentials of trade unionism. Church, the State, every social institution, has had its fanatics and its criminals. No great movement but has had to survive injurious episodes and unwise advocates. In this ordeal for unionism, we have not heard of the abandonment of the cause by a single follower or a single friend. Not one "if," "but," or "and" has been uttered by one of them to pull down or weaken the organization. On the contrary, assurances have come to us from strong men-in the ranks of labor, of the professions, and of business men-many of them strangers to us, that they understand, and approve of, the position of the American Federation of Labor throughout the whole of this chapter in the history of what is among the side issues of trade unionism. They have not been misled by the shricking in sensational newspaper headlines, the rabid onslaughts of our rancorous foes, or the hypocrisies of those who, professing love for labor, would profit by the present occasion to deprive organized labor of its hard-won strength.

In truth, amidst the clamor raised by financial interest, by partisan prejudice, by sensation-mongers, or through mere shallowness and base truckling to the noise-makers, the country is being compelled to hear the voice of sanity and

moral force. That voice is saying that if labor is the basic element in society. the laborer's cause should be sacred to society; if unrestricted competition among wage-workers leads to the fright. ful deprivation, degeneration, and collec. tive slavery of the masses which even America is witnessing, the wage-workers themselves are justified in organized on. position to such competition; if trade unionism as it exists has been the only effective agency developed to help the masses of wage-workers to get better pay and cut off the work-hours that destroy health and life, and in general improve the working conditions of labor, encouragement to it is a national obliga. tion; if it has stood champion for labor's rights, before our legislative bodies, before the public, appealing for whatever of justice can today be had, curbing avarice, performing an unparalleled work of philanthrophy in its mutual benefitsthen it desires to live and to continue its mission.

Who knows better than the trade unionists themselves the mission of unionism? How has that mission come to be shaped and developed? It has come through the free discussion, the public deliberations, the fairest procedures of a perfectly democratic organization. The voice and vote of the least man in the last rank has its due force and weight. Every sugges tion from the mind of any and all of the members of a union has its open channel to reach the full membership. What step may, or ought, to be taken, in organization, in efficiency, in policy, in politics, in exclusion or inclusion of members-in all such respects each union can have its share in proposing and deciding. Hence the history of the American Federation of Labor is the story of the will and wish of its majorities. How, then, could it be other than what it has been? How can it he other than what it is? It rests on the solid rock of the economic education. the recorded decisions, the deliberate will of its membership.

Purification? Yes; of whatever evils, of methods or men, that may appear. That is a natural part of its business, as with every other institution.

The methods of our Federation have been defined and defended on every necessary occasion. Despite the systematic malicious and mendacious misrepresentations of those methods, we repeat that they stop short of injurious attacks on persons and property, while they unfailingly uphold, to the last point, every right of labor, and of the wage-workers—in their movements, on the highways, in their purchases, in their choice of workfellows, and in their organization.

The men of our Federation have each a duty to perform, according to his place.

Within the organization, the membership decides who has or has not been derelict. Without, in matters of the law, the Government decides. On this score, a clamor—by the interested, chiefly—has been raised against the officers of the Federation. In reply, we say to the appropriate Government officials, proceed with your duty. We are ready. You shall have our aid. To the country we say, we have nothing to fear.

To the men and women of labor we say, the wrongs which the workers have borne, the rights to which they are entitled, should and must achieve, can only be accomplished by thorough organization, unity, and federation promoted and permeated by the spirit of fraternity and solidarity.

At no time in the history of labor has organization been so essential as now.

If the wage-earners of our continent hope, not only to promote and advance their interests, but to protect even that which they now enjoy, organization, unity, and federation are an immediate and pressing necessity.

The concentrated effort and bitter animosity of the enemies of organized labor to crush out the spirit of the toilers, and with it to enfeeble or destroy the organized labor movement, must be met by the men and women of labor with an intelligent, earnest, dignified, and insistent attitude; whose solemn and imperative duty it is to openly declare the high purposes for which our movement is instituted, to show its splendid achievements already accomplished for the workers and make clear its noblest aspirations, not only for the workers, but for all humanity.

Grit your teeth and organize!
—American Federationist.

American Federation of Labor

A Few of Its Declarations Upon Which It Appeals to All Working People to Organize, Unite, Federate, and Comment the Bonds of Fraternity

1. The Abolition of all Forms of Involuntary Servitude, except as a punishment for crime.

2. Free Schools, Free Text-Books, and

Compulsory Education.

3. Unrelenting Protest Against the Issuance and Abuse of Injunction Process in Labor Disputes.

4. A workday of not more than Eight Hours in the twenty-four-hour day.

5. A strict recognition of not over Eight Hours per day on all Federal, State, or Municipal Work and at not less than the prevailing Per Diem Wage Rate of the class of employment in the vicinity where the work is performed.

6. Release from employment One Day

in Seven.

7. The Abolition of the Contract System on Public Work.

- 8. The Municipal Ownership of Public Utilities.
- 9. The Abolition of the Sweat-Shop System. \bullet
- 10. Sanitary Inspection of Factory, Workshop, Mine, and Home.
- 11. Liability of Employers for injury to body or loss of life.
- 12. The Nationalization of Telegraph and Telephone.
- 13. The passage of Anti-Child Labor Laws in States where they do not exist and rigid defense of them where they have been enacted into law.
- 14. Woman Suffrage co-equal with Man

- 15. Suitable and plentiful Play Grounds for Children in all cities.
- 16. The Initiative and Referendum and the Imperative Mandate and Right of Recall.
- 17. Continued Agitation for the Public Bath System in all cities.
- 18. Qualifications in permits to build, of all cities and towns that there shall be Bathrooms and Bathroom Attachments in all houses or compartments used for habitation.
- 19. We favor a system of finance whereby money shall be issued exclusively by the Government, with such regulations and restrictions as will protect it from manipulation by the banking interest for their own private gain.
- 20. We favor a system of United States Government Postage Savings Banks.

The above is a partial statement of the demands which organized labor, in the interest of the workers—aye, fof all the people of our country—makes upon modern society.

Higher wages, shorter workday, better labor conditions, better homes, better and safer workshops, factories, mills and mines. In a word, a better, higher, and nobler life.

Conscious of the justice, wisdom, and nobility of our cause, the American Federation of Labor appeals to all men and women of labor to join with us in the great movement for its achievement.

More than two million wage-earners who have reaped the advantages of organization and federation appeal to their brothers and sisters of toil to unite with them and participate in the glorious movement with its attendant benefits.

There are affiliated to the American Federation of Labor 115 International Trade Unions with their 27,000 Local Unions; 39 State Federations; 632 City Central Bodies, and 668 Local Trade and Federal Labor Unions having no Internationals.

We have 1,456 volunteer and special organizers, as well as the officers of the unions and of the American Federation of Labor itself, always willing and anxious to aid their fellow-workmen to organize and in every other way better their conditions.

For information all are invited to write to the American Federation of Labor headquarters at Washington, D. C.

Wage-workers of American, unite!

A Statement to the American Public on the McNamara Case

The McNamaras stand before the world self-convicted of great crimes. They have been sentenced to terms of imprisonment—J. B. during his natural life, J. J. for fifteen years. The position of labor in connection with the effort made to afford these men an opportunity for adequate defense before the courts has been attacked and misrepresented to such a degree as to require a clear statement at the hands of the undersigned, who are in the best position to make an authoritative statement at this time—a statement that will be strengthened by some review of the principal points of the case.

Was there an explosion of gas in the Los Angeles Times building when it was destroyed? Immediately after the disaster, the press reports stated that men who had been at work in the building spoke of an odor of gas for some time previous to the explosion. Gas leakage in the building, it came out later, had been known to others. Many conservative trade union officials, newspaper writers and publicists, on making an investigation in Los Angeles, soon after, were positive in assuring the public that they believed gas had destroyed the building. Among the mine workers, not one man, so far as information has reached us, has believed the destructive explosive was dynamite. Prominent officials of the United Mine Workers, cautious, honorable men, whose word is taken as truth by all who know them, who are familiar with mining explosives, declared that the effect of the explosion was not that which follows a discharge of dynamite. Were all these men speaking from blind partisanship or from honest conviction? Were they utterly mistaken? The answer has now been supplied by the prosecution. While the "gas theory" was being hooted at by enemies of the unions, while even so late as last Friday night, an editor of the New York Times was inditing a contemptuous slur at John Mitchell for supposing "that proof would be adduced to show that an explosion of gas destroyed the Los Angeles Times building," the prosecution knew that gas was an agency in the explosion and a great factor in the destruction which ensued. W. J. Burns in a press interview Saturday last said: "Why, Mc-Manigal told us in his first confession that McNamara turned open the stopcocks of the gas mains of the building when he set the bomb. We knew all the time that a part of the explosion was due to gas." Now, the possible terrific force of a gas explosion, even in the open air. was shown in the wreckage caused by the accident at the Grand Central Station, New York, December 19, 1910, while the Los Angeles disaster was being discussed throughout the country.

The fact of a gas explosion led all others in importance in the minds of the organized workers. Nearly all of them were convinced that it was an established fact. The most cautious reasoners among them regarded the possibilities of the fact sufficient to hold to belief in it until proof to the contrary could be produced. They were willing to suspend conclusive judgment while awaiting evidence.

The public also wanted such facts regarding the circumstances of the explosion as could be accepted as evidence of the way it came about. What was given the public, first and foremost? On the instant, at the hearing of the explosion, H. G. Otis broke into a savage denunciation of trade unionists, accusing them of having caused the disaster, and he has ever since declared it was the result of dynamite. By this course, he diverted the case from one in which citizens in common should have proceeded, through legal methods alone, to search for the truth. He threw the unions on their defense, outraged them, insulted their officials, raised animosities that could have been avoided. He was at once backed up by the small circle of bitter enemies of trades unionism, whose

fulminations were largely made up of transparent falsehoods leveled at trade unions in general and at the leaders of trade unions.

Despite all clamor it must be remembered that, with few exceptions, the international trade unions, more than 120 in number, are and have usually been in normal business relations with the employers of their members. Many of them have for years arranged their differences and their working conditions with emplovers through trade agreements or other methods resulting in a minimum loss through suspension of work. Violence in cases of dispute are not common to them. Trade unionists have been made aware, by experience, that stories of disorder by unionists during strikes or lockouts have been systematically exaggerated.

Therefore, aware of the necessity of trade union organization of the incalculable amount of good in various forms done by and through their unions every year, of the long and bitter campaign carried on by Otis, Kirby, Post and others, to destroy trade unionism, and perceiving the intention of these plotters and their detectives to ignore the apparent, and to their minds, proven cause of the Times disaster, and to turn that terrible event solely to account as a means of discrediting trade unionism, the unions energetically stated their side of the case to the American public as they saw it at that time.

When, after six months, the McNamaras were arrested, it was in Russian style, not American. Holding the members of the Executive Board of the Structural Iron Workers in confinement without warrant, hurrying J. J. McNamara away from Indianapolis in an automobile and by circuitous routes taken to Californiawhat were these but features of highhanded irregularity, and tyrannical lawlessness, known in arrests in Russia that precede transportation of prosecuted citizens to Siberia? And, when Detective Burns has throughout been doubted by so great a part of the American public, it has been largely the fault of his proceedings at this point, and of his own defouling the reputation of his craft, for has he not said: "Private detectives, as a class, are the worst lot of blackmailing scoundrels that live outside of prisons. (See page 357, McClure's Magazine, August, 1911.)

J. J. McNamara had not been of sufficient prominence among labor men to be the subject of discussion as a leading figure, but what was generally known of him was to his credit. He was seen at conventions as a man of pleasing appearance and of mild manner. He was when of as self-educated and a faith-

ful secretary of his organization. His speech and his writings for his magazine were reputed to be conservative. When placed under arrest, and throughout his imprisonment, his bearing was undemonstrative. His letters to officials of the A. F. of L. and telegram to the Atlanta Convention were concise and without suspicious characteristics. In no wise, to common observation, had he shown abnormal traits.

Did organized labor properly express its condemnation of violence on hearing of the Los Angeles disaster? It did by interviews, addresses, and publications. The hundreds of union labor papers, in their issues succeeding the event, contained what, taken together, would make volumes, declarative of the sentiments of their editors and of the rank and file of union membership on the subject. All recognized the case as one of mystery, the feeling shown being that of horror at the possibility of any union man being implicated in it. Unions framed resolutions in meetings, declaring that trade unionism was not to be advanced by murderous acts. Union labor officials, and many others, were quoted to similar ef-The president of the American fect. Federation of Labor, the day after the disaster occurred, as published in the St. Louis Star. said:

"Labor does not stand for such outrages, nor contemplate such crime. cannot believe that a union man has done it, and I deeply hope no one who was connected with the labor movement will be found to have done it. It is inconceivable that a union man should have done. this thing. And yet, if it is found that a union man has done it, unionism cannot be blamed by fair-minded men for the deed of a man devoid of any human feeling, as the perpetrator of this horrible catastrophe must have been. It was the act of a madman. No one with an ounce of sympathy in his makeup could do aught but contemplate such a crime with the deepest abhorrence."

These facts were further fully presented in the June, 1911, issue of the American Federationist, in a seventeen-page article entitled the "McNamara Case," in which the leading facts up to that time were reviewed. Speaking before the St. Louis Central Labor Union on Sunday, October 2, 1910, the day after the disaster, President Gompers asserted he would "immediately turn the dynamiters over to the proper authorities if he could lav hands on them." The Globe-Democrat also quoted him as saying: "I only wish I knew the actual perpetrators and if I did, take my word for it, I would turn them over to justice." The universal condemnation of a murderous deed in labor circles, ought to be a fact so far beyond question, so easily ascertainable from accessible records, that no man with any regard for his reputation for veracity could deny it. Yet, the New York Times, in an editorial last Saturday, printed this sentence: "From_the day when James B. McNamara's bomb blew his twenty-one victims into eternity, down to the present time, no authoritative voice in the ranks of labor has been raised to express the hope that the murders would be brought to justice, even should they prove to be union men."

Relative to other phases of the Mc-Namara case, the article in the June American Federationist contains these passages:

"It may be said that from that time (the kidnapping) to the present, Detective Burns, Attorney Drew, Editor Otis, C. W. Post, and the active agents of the extremists in the Manufacturers' Association in general have all played to perfection the hysterical characters to which we are accustomed in the pages of cheap fiction and on the boards of the Bowery class of theatres."

* * * "Nothing more surprised us in the series of audacious acts committed by Detective Burns than his saying to a reporter of the World, May 7, 1911:

"Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, knows by this time that there was no frameup and that the arrests of the McNamaras and McManigal were not the result of a plant. Why? Because Gompers has been conducting an investigation of his own at Indianapolis that has convinced him that there was no frame-up and no plants."

"These assertions of Burns were entirely without foundation. Nothing was brought to our knowledge in Indianapolis or elsewhere that could be used as evidence against the prisoners or to show that the Structural Iron Workers' Union has been conducting a dynamite campaign against the Erectors' Association."

Since the McNamara's confession Burns has been reiterating this charge. The only "investigation" in which President Gompers participated in Indianapolis was the meeting of the prominent trade unionists held last May 10-12, called by officials of the eight international unions which have their headquarters in that city, and the meeting of the officials of a large number of trade unions called by authority of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, and held at Indianapolis, June 29, 1911. What President Gompers learned there was precisely what everyone attending the conference learned, and that was nothing that helped to solve the mystery of the Los Angeles disaster, or, of criminality of any kind.

Indeed, the unlawful and un-American kidnapping of McNamara formed one of the chief factors of fixing in the minds of the working people of our country that he was innocent. They reasoned, as they had a right to reason, that if there existed evidence of McNamara's guilt of the crime charged, every protection would and should have been accorded him to demonstrate before the courts of Indiana that he was innocent of the crime with which he was charged. His protestations of innocence, his demands to be represented by counsel, were all ruthlessly ignored.

Violence, brutality, destruction of lifeor property, are foreign to the aims and methods of organized labor of America, and no interest is more severely injured by the employment of such methods, than that of the workers organized in the labormovement. Therefore, quite apart from the spirit of humanitarianism and justicewhich prompts the activities of the organized labor movement, policy and hopesfor success, forbid the resort to violence. The American labor movement and its men are loyal Americans and seek toobtain the abolition of wrongs and theattainment of their rights within thelaw.

Organized labor of America has no desire to condone the crimes of the McNamaras. It joins in the satisfaction that the majesty of the law and justice has been maintained and the culprits commensurately punished for their crime.

And yet it is an awful commentary upon existing conditions when any oneman, among all the millions of workers, can bring himself to the frame of mind that the only means to secure justicefor labor is in violence, outrage and murder.

It is cruelly unjust to hold the men of the labor movement either legally or morally responsible for the crime of an individual member. No such moral codeor legally responsibility is placed upon any other association of men in ourcountry.

In so far as we have the right to speak, in the name of organized labor, we welcome any investigation which either Federal or State courts may undertake. The sessions of the Conventions of the American Federation of Labor are held with open doors that all may see and hear what is being said and done. The books, accounts, and correspondence of the American Federation of Labor are open to any competent authority, who may desire to make a study or an investigation of them.

Will the National Manufacturers' Association, the Erectors' Association and the detective agencies extend the same privi-

lege for public investigation and examination of their books and correspondence? When we were selected as a Committee

on Ways and Means to raise and dispense funds for the defense of the McNamaras and the prosecution of the kidnappers, we were fully impressed with the innocence of the accused men. That impression was strengthened by their written and oral protestations of innocence. We here and now, individually and collectively, declare that the first knowledge or intimation of their guilt was conveyed by the press in their confessions of guilt. From the outset we assured all contributors and the public generally that we would publish an accounting of the moneys received. from whom received, and to whom paid. This assurance will be fulfilled. A report in full will first be made to the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, at its meeting to be held at Wash-

ington, D. C., January 8, 1912.

The American labor movement has done so much for the workers of our country in improving their condition, in lightening the burdens which the workers have had to bear, bringing light and hope in the homes and in the lives, the factories and the workshops of country, that it challenges the world of investigators. The organizations of labor of America have been the most potent factors in the establishment and maintenance of the largest measure of industrial peace. Their course is of a conciliatory character, to reach trade agreements with employers, and the faithful adherence to agreements. When industrial conditions become unsettled, they are more largely due to the unreasonableness of employers, who regard every effort of the workers to maintain their rights, and to promote their interests, as an invasion of employers' perogatives, which are resented with consequent struggles. If employers will be but fair and tolerant, they will find more than a responsive attitude on the part of organized labor, but, of one thing all may rest assured, that with existing conditions of concentrated wealth and industry, the organized toilers of our country realize that there is no hope from abject. slavery outside of the protection which the organized labor movement affords.

The men of organized labor, in common with all our people, are grieved beyond expression in words at the loss of life, and the destruction of property, not only in the case under discussion, but in any other case which may have occurred. We are hurt and humiliated to think that any man connected with the labor movement should have been guilty of The lesson this grave crime either. teaches will, however, have its salutary effect. It will demonstrate now more than ever, the inhumanity, as well as the futility of resorting to violence in the effort to right wrongs, or to attain rights.

In view of the great uplift work in which the men of the labor movement have been and are engaged, and the industrial problems with which they have to contend, we insist that our organizations of labor should be judged by what they do and aim to do, rather than to be opposed and stigmatized because one or a few may be recreant to the good name and high ideals of labor, and we appeal to the fair-minded citizenship and the press of America for fair treatment.

Samuel Gompers, Chairman, President American Federation of Labor. . Frank Morison, Secretary,

Secretary American Federation of Labor. James A. Short.

President Building Trades Department. Wm. J. Spencer,

Secretary Building Trades Department. Jas. O'Connell,

President Metal Trades Department. A. J. Berres,

Secretary Metal Trades Department. John B. Lennon.

President Union Label Trades Dept. Thomas F. Tracy,

Secretary Union Label Trades Depart. Constituting the McNamara Ways and Means Committee.

Washington, D. C., December 7, 1911.

Good-Bye Secessionists

This Country Not Large Enough for Two Organizations of One Trade, American Federation of Labor Decides

The adjustment committee in the Atlanta Convention, aside from dealing with all the specific cases referred to it, concluded its report with a clear declaration-one craft, one organization-and recommended its adoption. The declaration was unanimously concurred in. The declaration and recommendations are as follows:

"Before closing the report the committee wishes to make the following declaration and recommendations: Whatever argument or excuse there might have been in the past for the existence of two organizations of the one craft, we now believe that such argument or excuse is absent. It is the opinion of the committee on adjustment, many of whose members have had to deal with disputes caused by the existence of two organizations of one craft for many years, that the time has arrived for the American Federation of Labor to openly and emphatically declare itself to the effect that, large as this country is, it is not large enough to hold two organizations of one craft. Therefore your committee recommends that this Thirty-first Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor goes squarely on record in favor of the above declaration, and your committee further recommends that this convention instruct the President of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor to carry into effect the principles and purposes involved in this declaration—one craft, one organization."

In the discussion which followed, Treasurer Lennon asked if the declaration might not be construed as being in more or less opposition to the action of the Scranton convention on the subject of organization, in that in some instances organizations have the right to contain all the people engaged in the industry. Replying to Treasurer Lennon, Chairman James O'Connell of the ad-

justment committee made this statement:

"We had in mind just what Delegate Lennon spoke of, which is not the intention of the committee at all. The motion of the committee recognizes that the trades have that right, but the committee wants this declaration to go out, that if a faction of a trade breaks away or the organization splits, the portion that goes on the outside may know at the very start that there can be no recognition of two divisions of that organization in this Federation, nor can some faction of a craft not yet affiliated with the organization that is affiliated here, some independent portion of a trade on the outside, hold out with the hope that in the future it is possible for that portion of that craft to be chartered by the American Federation of Labor. It does not interfere in any way with the decision and declaration of the Scranton Convention. It recognizes fully the rights of the miners as they are now organized."

It will be noted that by the action taken seceding and dual organizations will hereafter be permanently denied recognition by the American Federation of Labor—A. F. of L. Press Service.

Membership of the American Federation of Labor 1881 to 1911

(Excerpt from Sec'y. Morrison's Report.) A resume of the growth of the American Federation of Labor, numerically, during the past thirty-one years can not but encourage the trade unionists to redouble their efforts to educate, organize, and federate the wage-workers of the world. The growth of the American Federation of labor from 1881 to 1893 was gradual. During that time it increased from 50,000 to 275,000, and remained about that number up to 1899. In 1899 it reached very nearly 350,000; in 1900 it passed the 500,000 mark; in 1901, 750,000; in 1902 it passed the million mark, and in 1903 very nearly reached the million and a half point, and in 1904 shot up above the million and a half, reaching a membership of 1,676,200. Thus the growth of the American Federation of Labor from 1899 up to and including 1904 was phenomenal. This marked increase in membership could not occur other than by organizations being formed rapidly within a short period, and as a natural consequence it must be expected that in adjusting the membership of the unions the membership must decrease somewhat from the high-water mark which it reached while the organization wave held sway.

There was a decrease in the membership in 1905 and 1906 from the highwater mark of 1904. This decrease was almost entirely caused by internal strife which led to secession and a number of ill-advised and unsuccessful strikes of a few international organizations.

During 1907 and 1908 the membership climbed up over 1,500,000 and receded again to a little below the 1,500,000 mark, when the tide again changed, and in 1910 it passed the 1,500,000 mark, and this year the increase in the membership of the international organizations and the addition of the 51,300 which came from the affiliation of the Western Federation of Miners, forced the average paid-up and reported membership of the international organizations to 1,761,835, which is an increase of 199.723 over the membership of last year, and 85,635 members over the high-water mark of 1904.

That the membership of the International Unions is steadily on the increase is indicated by the fact that the paid-up and reported membership of the directly affiliated local unions and international organizations for the month of September of this year is 1,768,614, which indicates that notwithstanding the hostile forces that are working against the labor unions, that the coming year will show an increase over the membership reported upon this year.

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fifteen	y car =	~		264,825
Year				
1897				278,016
1898				349,422
1899				548,321
1900				787,537
1901				024,399
1902			1	465,800
1903			1	676,200
1904				494,300
1905				,454,200 538 970
1906			1	538,970
1907				, ,

TO ORGANIZED LABOR.

In the recent past, the good name and high ideals of our great labor movement, its men, and the cause of humanity it and they represent, have been attacked as never before. Every enemy, every "interest," arrayed against the organized workers has howled like dervishes. They hope to bring our tried, trusted, and faithful men into disrepute, to destroy your confidence in their integrity and thereby weaken, and finally crush, the organizations of labor.

Every union member deplores violence and crime, whether committed by an ordinary outlaw, by a corporation director or agent, or by a so-called union man. Labor resents the insinuation that because one or two union members became criminally fanatical or fanatically criminal, that the rank and file, and the officers of the labor movement, are responsi-

ble either legally or morally.

Labor in its history has met, resisted, and overcome the bitter hostility of its foes. Labor, standing for the great cause of justice and humanity, will again.

Men and women of Labor: Stand firm, be true to yourselves and to each other. Let the spirit of fraternity, justice, freedom, and solidarity imbue your every thought, word, and action. Stand by your union. Organize the yet unorganized workers, and labor will triumph.

Yours fraternally,

Samuel Gompers,
President American Federation of Labor.
Attest.

Frank Morrison, Secretary.

DONNELLY URGES ANNUITIES.

Strong recommendations that the Civil Service employes of the Government be retired on annuities when they reach the age of retirement or become disabled, are contained in the annual report of Public Printer Samuel B. Donnelly. Mr. Donnelly says that there are more than 250 men in the Government Printing Office who are more than

1908	 	 1,586	5,885
		1,482	
1910	 	 1,562	2,112
1911	 	 1.761	1.835

So that the delegates and the membership at large may, at a glance, realize the marvelous growth in membership of the American Federation of Labor, I have prepared a chart to indicate the membership for each year since 1881, up to and including 1911—thirty-one years. The column for 1911 has passed over the 1,750,000, and has started on its way upward to the 2,000,000 mark, which I feel sure will be reached within a few years.

65 years old, and urges that it would be of advantage to the Government to provide for the retirement of those who have given to the public service the best years of their lives and who may be unable to perform an average day's work. He further asserts that the basis of such annuities should be length of service, and the salary or wage received during their employment, which in the case of those who have been in the service for many years would meet their ordinary requirements during the remainder of their lives, and that such a plan would result in saving a large portion of the amount that is conceded generally is now lost through superannuation of employes, and would at the same time be an act of justice to the individual and a recognition of long and faithful service.

LESLIE SHAW EMPLOYS CONVICTS.

Leslie M. Shaw, for four years Governor of Iowa; for six years a member of the President's cabinet as Secretary of the Treasury; for many years one of the chief stump orators for the Republican party; for many years a Sunday School Superintendent. In short, an eloquent, thrifty, pious, standpat gentleman, who believes in dollars, first, and men to come in as chance may permit. Leslie has also a world-wide reputation as a most charming versatile story teller—he knows how to mix humor with business. As present he is the influential President of the First Mortgage Guarantee and Trust Co. of Philadelphia, and is also the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the American Fibre Reed Co. Mr. Shaw has given to the world a prospectus of this company, which he evidently intended to be considered a happy combination of humor and thrift, but which when analyzed, shows this scheming politician up in his true nature. He says in his prospectus, amongst other things: "The Fibre Reed Company's factories are located inside prison walls, with 800 prisoners under contract in Maine, Illinois and Kentucky." * * * "Our prison contracts are made for eight years and

generally continue indefinitely. We pay for our labor 52 cts per man per day. Our competitors, who employ free labor, pay an average wage of \$2 per day. There are no strikes or labor troubles in prisons. Our company is supplied with factory buildings, storage warehouses inside the prison walls, free of rent. We have free heat, free light, free power. To acquire similiar facilities as these would necessitate an extra investment of a million dollars. Seven per cent is guaranteed on the preferred stock and 10 per cent on the common; but the company expects its net earnings to be double these because it is seeking prison labor in other states, so that the company can control 65 per cent of the fibre and 50 per cent of the reed business in the United States." Leslie quaintly adds: "The company's experience enables it to obtain contracts and advantages in preference to other manufacturers who have not had prison experience." And in another part of this prospectus he says in words more damagely truthful than poetic, "These are ideal conditions of profitable manufacturing." These excerpts from the gifted Mr. Shaw's prospectus should be enough to make Labor so thoroughly indignant by the imposition of contract convict labor, that a louder and more insistent demand would go forth to Representatives and Senators in the 62nd Congress, for an immediate passage of the bill H. R. 5601 for the purpose of protecting free labor as against the abominable competition of prison labor.

WAGES PAID IN WOOLEN MILLS.

The Tariff Board made its first report to Congress on Dec. 21. This report dealt with the woolen industry (the celebrated Schedule K). It says 35,029 persons are employed in 164 separate occupations in the industry. The earnings of weavers, based upon piecework prices, range from \$6 to \$18 per week. The average for worsted weavers is \$12.36 for males and \$9.54 for females. Woolen weavers earn on an average \$10.63 per week for males and \$10.54 per week for females. These wages are also based on piecework rates. The weekly hours average 551/2, the same as the average hours for the industry in Great Britain.

Of the 35,029, 36½ per cent are native born, 63½ per cent foreign born; 35 per cent of all the employes in the industry are recent arrivals from Italy and southeastern Europe. The foremen and supervisors are principally persons born in the United States, the British Isles and Germany. 83 per cent of all the employes had no previous experience in the industry before going to work in the woolen mills. 50 per cent of these had

been at school or at home, and 32 per cent had been employed in other occupations. About 16 per cent had been in the industry less than a year and 53 per cent less than 5 years. For a highly protected industry it shows native born workers do not profit much.

The most remarkable part of this report says, "The general indications are that the lowest labor cost per pound was found in the mills paying the highest wages." It is sometimes amusing, and always assuring, that official investigators invariably prove the assertions of organized labor on this point.

CAMPAIGN FOR INDUSTRIAL EDU-CATION.

A conference in the interest of trade training and vocational education was held in Washington on Dec. 14, at which representatives of the American Federation of Labor, the National Educational Association, the National Association of Colleges and Stations, the National Association of Normal Schools, the National Federation of Women's Clubs, the Agricultural Association of Colleges and Stations, and officials of The Grange, took part. The Wilson bill, H. R. 12156, and the identical measure, 8. 3, by Senator Page, were unanimously endorsed and steps taken to vigorously press the principles of these measures for early passage through Congress.

EIGHT-HOUR LAW.

The Eight Hour bill, H. R. 9601, which passed the House of Representatives on December 14, has been referred to the Senate Committee on Education and Labor. This committee is composed of the following Senators: Borah, Idaho; Penrose, Pennsylvania; Du Pont, Delaware; Page, Vermont; McLean, Connecticut; Kenyon, Iowa; Rayner, Maryland; Bankhead, Alabama; Shively, Indiana; Swanson, Virginia; and Martine, New Jersey.

President Gompers has urged the committee to take action upon the bill at an early date. It would be well if his example were followed by all the organizations, and if individual members would address their own senators urging them to give immediate and active support to this measure.

Boston, Mass.—Engineers and Firemen's Unions have reduced the hours of about 150 men from 12 hours to eight hours per day. Milk teamsters have obtained better conditions and increased wages as result of short strike. All city firemen work the 8-hour day under a new city ordinance.

PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS.

Building Trades Committee at Atlanta Convention Urges One Organization for Pipe Fitting Industry.

In the matter of the jurisdictional controversy between the U. A. Plumbers and I. A. Steamfitters, under consideration at the convention of the American Federation of Labor, at Atlanta, Ga., the Building Trades Committee submitted the following report:

"In the instance of the contention affecting the pipe fitting industry the interests directly involved raise the following questions:

"First: Concentration of effort and efficiency in one general pipe fitting organization; or,

Second: Segregation of certain portions of the industry into separately managed and distinctly administered associa-

"In regard to the latter question, the segregated portion of the industry does not, and for many reasons cannot, cover or comprehend in all parts of North America, the portion of the industry it essays to govern in largely populated cities and their immediate environments.

"Therefore, in this instance, the Executive Council holds that both for harmony and for practicability, the pipe fitting trade should be represented in the A. F. of L., also in the Building Trades Department, by one general association of the pipe fitting industry-the United Association of Plumbers, Gas Fitters, Steam Fitters and Steam Fitters' Helpers of the United States and Canada; and, further recommends that the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. be instructed, and the Executive Council of the Building Trades Department be requested to carry this into effect."

A minority report was also submitted, incorporating Resolution No. 144 by Delegates J. T. Kinsella and John Mangan of the I. A. Steamfitters. After considerable discussion the minority report was lost by a vote of 38 to 135. The majority report was then adopted. The action of the convention was in consonance with the declaration previously endorsed-one

craft, one organization.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 2, 1911. To the Officers and Members of Organized Labor-Greeting:

As a protest from organized labor against the proposed plan to lower the standard of the paper money of the people by substituting a cheaper method of manufacturing, which would encourage counterfeiting to a marked degree, the following preambles and resolutions were adopted at the Convention of the American Federation of Labor held at Atlanta, Ga., November, 1911:

Whereas, There is now pending in the Senate of the United States a bill (S. 2564) known as the Smoot Printing Bill, the main purpose of which is to codify, amend and enact printing laws, but which contains at the end of its 110 pages, an eightline section which indirectly repeals a law of Congress enacted for the purpose of safeguarding the people's currency against the dangers of counterfeiting; and

Whereas. The maximum of safety against the evils of the counterfeiters' art is guaranteed by what is known as the hand-roller process of manufacturing

paper securities; and

Whereas, A cheaply manufactured paper money in the making of which are to be discarded, for the sake of a false economy, the high-art features of the engravers' and printers' crafts, which alone render impossible reckless and widespread counterfeiting such as pre-vailed in the days of the "wild-cat" currency of the long ago, which entail incalculable losses upon the common people; and as proof, experience teaches that counterfeiters apply their skill principally to producing and putting in circulation the small notes which pass current among farmers, and the working classes in the cities and towns, on the assumption, which is well grounded, that those classes will be the least suspicious and the more easily deceived with well executed counterfeits; and

Whereas. It is the highest duty of the government to throw every possible safeguard about the paper money which it manufactures and puts in circulation among the people, to the end that their present implicit confidence in this function of government may not be misplaced or destroyed; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the American Federation of Labor, in convention assembled, protests against the repeal of the law of Congress of 1898 which provides that the paper money, bonds and checks of the United States shall be manufactured in the highest style of the art by what is known as the hand-roller process. We do not believe in a cheap country, cheap men, cheap wages, or a currency cheapened to the danger point of encouraging counterfeiting. In this respect the people have implicit confidence in their government, and our pride and interest alike demand that this confidence shall not be destroyed. The people, in the last analysis, are the government, and their voice, and not that of the selfish and scheming interests, should prevail in this matter of so vast, far-reaching and vital concern.

Resolved further, That all bodies affiliated with the American Federation of Labor are hereby requested and urged to make immediate and strong protest against the repeal or modification of the law hereinbefore referred to, such protest to be sent to the senators and representatives of the States and Congressional Districts wherein the protesting bodies are located.

Resolved further, That copies hereof be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Treasury, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives with a request that the same be printed in full in the Congressional Record.

The foregoing preambles and resolutions present to the wage-earners a matter in which they have a most intimate and vital interest. This question reaches down into every man's pocketbook. They are so well content with the artistic and mechanical quality of their money that perhaps very few men have given this question any consideration whatever. Certain it is that no class of our people-wage-earners farmers, clerks, or tradesmen-has asked the Congress to economize in this matter and save a few thousand dollars annually by cheapening the quality of their securities.

As the resolution states, ours is the people's government, and the people's servants in Washington make their money. As in all other matters in government, the people have the right in this matter to make their influence felt; and, to arouse the people to action against the dangers which menace their pocketbooks, it is only necessary to state the truth as has been done by the resolution of the American Federation of Labor just quoted.

Organized labor never opposes the introduction of labor-saving machinery. The men of labor, perhaps more fully than any class of our people, appreciate the manifold blessings which have come to them with the advent of the inventors' aids to industry. Labor-saving machinery has multiplied many fold the demand for hand-workers; toil has been lightened, made more interesting and pleasant, and the sanitary conditions for workers have been improved by it. But there are yet many things which can not successfully be done by labor-saving machinery.

To some it might sound puerile to say that a great statue or a great painting cannot be made by labor-saving machinery. To those who have made an honest investigation of the matter, it is also puerile to say that power-presses can produce the people's paper money in a style and finish at all comparable with the product of the hand-roller presses.

The paper money of Canada is printed on power-presses. A comparison of our

currency with that of Canada will be sufficient to convince any layman of the artistic superiority of our money over that of our northern neighbors. In very truth our present method of engravingand printing our securities make them almost the despair of counterfeiters.

We appeal to you to let the influence of your organization be felt on this question. Send a strongly worded protest to the representative from your Congressional district and the two senators from your State. Demand in no uncertain tone that the proposed legislation be defeated.

Kindly frame the protest in your own language and not in the language of the American Federation of Labor resolution as used in this circular.

At least two-thirds of the petitions that go from the people to the members of Congress are filed away in committee rooms and never come officially to the attention of Congress. Therefore, to make your work effective your senators and representatives should be requested and urged to present your protest to the official attention of their respective bodies.

Immediate action on your part is almost imperative, as there is so brief a period of time before the expected action of Congress.

Fraternally yours,
Samuel Gompers,
President American Federation of Labor.
Attest: Frank Morrison,
Secretary.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 9, 1911. To Organized Labor—Greeting:

In the recent past, the good name and high ideals of our great labor movement, its men, and the cause of humanity it and they represent, have been attacked as never before. Every enemy, every "interest," arrayed against the organized workers has howled like dervishes. They hope to bring our tried, trusted and faithful men into disrepute, to destroy your confidence in their integrity and thereby weaken, and finally crush, the organizations of labor.

Every union member deplores violence and crime, whether committed by an ordinary outlaw, by a corporation director or agent, or by a so-called union man. Labor resents the insinuation that because one or two union members became criminally fanatical or fanatically criminal, that the rank and file, and the officers of the labor movement, are responsible either legally or morally.

Labor in its history has met, resisted, and overcome the bitter hostility of its foes. Labor, standing for the great cause of justice and humanity, will again.

Men and women of Labor: Stand firm, be true to yourselves and to each other.

Let the spirit of fraternity, justice, freedom and solidarity imbue your every thought, word and action. Stand by your union. Organize the yet unorganized workers, and labor will triumph.

The following statement of the Mc-Namara Ways and Means Committee is commended to the thoughtful consideration of you and all interested. Please read it at your meeting and insert it in your minutes for future information and reference. Grit your teeth and organize! Fraternally yours,

Sam'l. Gompers,

President American Federation of Labor. Attest:

Frank Morrison, Secretary.

NEWS LETTER COMMENDED.

Annual Convention of Federation Also Authorizes Widening of Scope and Volume as Officers Deem Expedient.

Delegates James M. Lynch and T. W. McCullough of the International Typographical union introduced a resolution at the Atlanta convention of the American Federation of Labor commending the dissemination of labor news through the medium of the weekly news letter, and authorizing the officers of the Federation to continue the service, increase its scope and volume. The resolution was adopted. After the "Whereas," the resolution reads:

"Resolved, That this convention of the American Federation of Labor does hereby commend the course pursued by our officers in thus providing a weekly news service which can be depended upon to furnish the latest and most reliable information obtainable; that it has proven to be of much usefulness to the editors and others involved; that its accuracy has been tested and its service established to the point where its value can hardly be estimated; and, be it further

"Resolved, That our officers be instructed by this convention to continue this service, increasing its scope and volume as they may deem prudent or expedient, and that the secretaries of all organized bodies be requested to cooperate to the end that the value and usefulness of this service may be enhanced."

A SPLENDID REPORT.

The report of James Duncan, (the delegate representing the American Federation of Labor at the International Secretariat at Budapest this year) presented to the Atlanta convention of the A. F. of L., is considered a classic in labor

literature. It contains a general resume of the labor condition in various parts of continental Europe and with a detailed report of the proceedings of the International Secretariat. The delegates to the convention were thoroughly appreciative of the splendid manner in which the various subjects were treated, and Mr. Duncan received compliments on every hand for his effort in what can be termed a genuine literary production.

CAR WORKERS AND CARMEN.

The controversy existing between the International Car Workers and the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen was again before the Atlanta convention of the American Federation of Labor in a resolution by the Car Workers to revoke the charter of the Brotherhood of Car-The adjustment committee, to which was referred the resolution, reported non-concurrence and recommended that the president and executive council of the American Federation of Labor continue their efforts to bring about an amalgamation of the two organizations. At former attempts made at amalgamation between these two organizations the Car Workers made objection, among other things, to amalgation on account of the indebtedness of the Carmen, although the Carmen had agreed that the payment of these liabilities should only be participated in by the members of the Carmen's organization even though an amalgamation should take place. It appears now that the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, since affiliation with the American Federation of Labor, has discharged all of its outstanding obligations and therefore no indebtedness remains. The president of the Car Workers, Delegate Richardson, on the following day presented the charter of his organization to President Gompers, not being satisfied with the action of the convention in not concurring in his resolution. President Gompers asked by what authority the charter was returned, and he not receiving a satisfactory reply stated that he thereupon turned over the charter of the Car Workers to Secretary Morrison with instructions to notify the secretary of the Car Workers' organization that the char-President Gompers ter was so held. further stated that the action of Delegate Richardson in returning the charter without authority was a usurpation of the rights of the membership of that organization.

FRATERNAL DELEGATES.

Each year the American Federation of Labor conventions elect three fraternal delegates, two to represent the Federation at the British Trade Union congress, and one to attend the Dominion Trade and Labor congress The Federation will be represented next year at the British Trade Union congress by G. L. Berry, president of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' union, and John H. Walker, of the Coal Miners. John T. Smith will represent the Federation as fraternal delegate to the Dominion Trades and Labor congress, which meets next September at Guelph, Ontario.

AMALGAMATION PLANS.

Atlanta Convention of American Federation of Labor Directs Amalgamation of Wood Working Organizations,

The Atlanta convention of the American Federation of Labor through its adjustment committee gave much consideration to the jurisdiction dispute which has been long occupying the stage, between the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, Amalgamated Society of Carpenters, and the Amalgamated Wood Workers. adjustment committee in reporting on the conditions existing between the United Brotherhood and the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters made the following recommendation, which was adopted by a vote of 15,491 for, to 425 votes against, those not voting representing 1,324 votes.

"Your committee recommends that the president of the American Federation of Labor be instructed to arrange a conference between representatives of the two organizations involved within ninety days from the adjournment of this convention. with a view of arranging a basis of amalgamation of the two organizations, and in case of disagreement upon the terms of amalgamation agreed upon and submitted by the president and executive council of the American Federation of Labor, the differences shall be referred to the president and the executive council of the American Federation of Labor for a final decision, which decision shall be rendered not later than June 1, 1912. Should the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners fail to amalgamate with the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners on or before July 1, 1912, the president of the American Federation of Labor is hereby instructed to revoke the charter of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners."

In the jurisdictional controversy existing between the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and the Amalgamated Wood Workers the committee made an identical report with the one just quoted, the roll call vote being 15,374 in favor, with 409 votes against; 1,457 votes not being

recorded either way. If these amalgamations take place the jurisdiction disputes among the wood working unions will be entirely eliminated.

ORGANIZED MINING DEPARTMENT.

At the Atlanta convention of the American Federation of Labor the delegates from the Western Federation of Miners and the United Mine Workers held a meeting and organized what is known as a mining department. The constitution and by-laws have been drafted and presented to the executive council with the request that a charter be issued.

PER CAPITA TAX RAISED.

The Atlanta convention of the American Federation of Labor has raised the per capita of national and international unions from 1/2 cents to 2/3 of a cent per member per month. The Executive Council in its report recommended the increase. The matter was referred to th Laws Committee and that committee brought in a favorable report. An increase in the per capita tax had become necessary in order to extend the activities of the Federation. The recommendation of the committee was carried by a vote of 123 to 27.

STRUGGLE IS RENEWED.

Dishonorable Employers at Muscatine. la., Have Violated Agreement, and Shops Are Closed.

Men, women and children, employed in the button factories in Muscatine, Ia., are again engaged in a battle for the life of their union. The employers have violated the agreement entered into with the labor organization, and the members of the Button Workers' Protective Union are determined not to return to work until the terms of the contract are strictly observed.

The struggle of the button workers has been a memorable one. Compelled to work under conditions that shorten life, their lot has been made harder by the exactions of the employers, who have robbed them through counting and weighing methods, and have heaped all kinds of indignities on the women who were compelled to seek employment in the plants.

In October, 1910, they organized a union, hoping through this medium to find redress for their many wrongs. On February 25, 1911, the employers closed every plant in the city, and made a proposition to the workers that they would be re-opened if they would drop their union connections and agree to

have no further dealings with labor

organizations.

The button makers refused to accept the proposition and when the shops were opened on March 20, kept away from them. A picket line was established; special police appeared on the scene and the pickets were forbidden to speak to anyone looking for employment. The strikers remained firm and the employers failed to secure workers to take their places. The manufacturers called upon the governor for the services of the militia, and failing, imported thugs, armed with automatic guns and blackjacks who assaulted all who dared to go near the plants. Riots ensued, the governor sent the militia, and every shop was guarded at the point of the bayonet.

Still the strikers stood firm and Governor Carroll came to Muscatine and brought about a settlement that gave the workers the right to see their product weighed, providing for the posting of schedules in every shop, and for the protection of the workers against dis-

crimination.

Under the provisions of this agreement work was resumed on May 4, but in a few days the employers began to

violate every clause of it.

On August 21, the button makers, driven to desperation, declared a strike at one of the plants, and 900 were locked out by other employers. Those still at work agreed to pay five per cent of their earnings for the support of those on strike and locked out, and the employers immediately retaliated by reducing the working days to four a week in the shops still in operation.

The plants are again surrounded by regular and special police. Girl pickets are being arrested and hurried before a police judge, who refuses a trial by jury, and another call has been sent to Governor Carroll for the services of the mi-

Men and women are still on the picket line and all the efforts of the authorities and the employers have failed to break the spirit of the strikers who are determined to keep up the conflict until their rights are recognized.

ROCHESTER GETS CONVENTION.

The next annual convention of the American Federation of Labor will be held in Rochester, N. Y. There were two other candidates-Seattle, Wash., and Richmond, Va.—for the honor. chester was an easy winner in the con-

Hodcarriers at St. Cloud, Minn., have secured an increase of 25c a day.

INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM.

The Atlanta convention of the American Federation of Labor, in dealing with the question presented in a resolution of electing its officers by a referendum vote. decided: "That the question of the practicability and desirability of electing the officers of the American Federation of Labor by referendum vote be referred to the Executive Council for investigation, with the understanding that they report on this subject to the next annual convention for its consideration.'

MINERS LOSE LIVES.

Eight miners were killed in the Adrain shaft of the Rochester. Pittsburg Coal and Iron Company's mine located four miles from Punxsutawney, Pa. miners who entered the shaft hours after the accident, in an attempt to effect a rescue, were driven out by gas. work of rescue was abandoned pending the arrival of the mine rescue car from the government station in Pittsburg. After the arrival of the car, six bodies were recovered.

WRIGHT'S LATEST ORDER.

Mr. Justice Wright has passed an order appointing U. S. Commissioner Albert Harper commissioner to take testimony in the contempt proceedings against Messrs. Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison, with liberty to all persons so desiring to have their testimony taken in open court. This order was signed on Dec. 15, and notice has just been served by the committee prosecuting the matter that its testimony will be taken in open court at ten o'clock Saturday, Dec. 30. The order gives thirty days to the committee for the taking of testimony, and a like time to the respondents, with ten days for the committee to close.

TAYLOR SYSTEM.

The Federal Commission investigating the Taylor System obtained an extension of time in which to make its report from January 1 to March 10, 1912. The Commission obtained an appropriation of \$10,000 to meet the necessary expenses incurred during the investigation. A hearing will be granted on January 4 to employes of the Rock Island Arsenal, who will be present representing the machine shop, the small arms department, the equipment shop and the carpenter shop.

On January 9 a delegation of workmen will appear before the Commission from the Norfolk Navy Yard. At these hearings officers of the Ordinance Bureau and the Navy Department are also ex-

pected to testify.



Correspondence



To P. W. Collins, Editor:

As it has been some time since there was a piece in The Worker from Local 140 I will try and send in a few lines at this time.

As for No. 140 they are as firm as ever in their stand for the A. F. of L. side of the I. B. E. W. If anything, more so than before the Convention at Rochester.

Now just a few words about the con-

vention

When I went there I was of the impression that it would only be a fight from start to finish on the Reid-Murphy subject, but such was not the case. On the contrary all the talk between the rank and file of both sides was of a friendly nature and at the Whitcomb House our headquarters was always to be seen some of the Reid delegates looking for some news as to the situation of the Brotherhood, and as to what action we were to take at our convention in regards to the amalgamation of which I think they were always enlightened as much as we could give them on the subject, and I dare say left us with more knowledge of the affairs of the Brotherhood than their own officers ever dared give them for fear they would desert their ranks and come back home under the protection of the A. F. of L.

As for myself I think the two weeks spent in Rochester was the most interesting of any convention ever held in a labor organization.

Now just a little of what has happened since the adjournment at Rochester of the two factions. The rotten literature of the Reid faction has been sown broadcast more than ever before. They have come out and said that we did not want to join hands but wanted to hold out as long as we can, as we were afraid that if we came in all together and the final decision of the courts was given we were sure of defeat, but I dare say for every man there that we know there is no defeat for us. As for the defeated ones when the time comes you can guess very well who they will be. If not get one of their workers after the convention was held and see the system they take on the circulars they sent out in trying to hold their men with them just as long as they can and then have the nerve to say they wanted everything settled. My mind is made up to the fact they have lost all the hopes of every gaining any more.

I was imformed that they, that is the majority of their delegates would not have their picture taken but when they seen our group of men, they gave in and had one taken of theirs. It is hard to think of being ashamed for belonging to an organization so much that you will hesitate to have a picture taken!

Gentlemen, one more thing I wish to say came to my hearing from some of their delegates. That is, that previous to the Convention I. P. McNulty went through the country visiting all local B. A.'s telling them that if they didn't wish to lose their jobs they must get busy and go to the Convention. I am sorry to say we did not see him in Schenectady.

Also they stated that Brother Harvey Raven positively refused to run for President as he was getting more money than both the I. P. and I. S. together. Who makes up these lies and what is the reason of such only to keep the rank and file in ignorance of the truth in the matter. There is a Reason.

There is one thing sure, that sooner or later the truth will out and these who have deceived their followers so long will be shown up in their own light and ever after be shunned by the man who has to work hard for his living.

As things are coming our way as each day goes by we earnestly hope that the year 1912 will see us once more a united Brotherhood.

Push the suits in Cleveland and you will all know the truth.

Yours fraternally.

J. B. Welch, 902 Duane Ave.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Since my attention has been called to the resolution presented to the Executive Council of the Illinois State Federation of Labor in October, relative to Edwardsville Trades Assembly harboring scab Electrical Workers, I cannot refrain from again writing you.

The Edwardsville Central body are certainly being accused falsely; its a shame to accuse and threaten these good union men—such as the Edwardsville Central Trades is composed of.

However, I want to call your attention to the time and manner of acquiring the Electrical Workers' Charter at Edwardsville (703).

I myself was the man who first broached the matter of organizing the broadland Workers at Edwardsville. fellow Electrical Worker here, Chas. Hotz, fellow present Financial Secretary, was our who insisted on organizing an another Workers' Union here. Hotz and myself I guess did more talking for it than the other boys.

We had several reasons for wanting a

Local Union here.

The primary reason was the exceptionally poor wages paid hereabouts to telephone and telegraph linemen. We were working on the advisability of asking for a charter for Edwardsville for something like two and a half years previous to obtaining same.

Hotz was, and is now a telegraph man; I was a telephone man. We wanted to better the condition of ourselves and coworkers. We were carrying Reid-Murphy cards, but we wanted a Local Union on

the job.

There was no serious thought as to whether the new Local Union was to be a McNulty organization or Reid organization, until we had considerable experience through strikes, especially the last twelve monthhs previous to receiving our charter.

In our differences with employers-especially the Bell Telephone Co., we found out that the Reid organization was not affiliated with the A. F. of L. For instance in a strike at Collinsville, Ill., we were told by the business agent, Brother Jenkins of Collinsville Central Trades A. F. of L., that they could not do anything for us as we belonged to an organization that was not affiliated with the A. F. of L. But had we been on the right side we would have received proper support.

Things ran along with the men disgruntled about the split in the Electrical Workers' ranks until this McKinley trouble came up. Myself and six linemen and two ground men were notified one morning that there was a strike on the McKinley trolley system, embracing territory from St. Louis to Decatur or thereabouts. We were working on electric light job, we had no grievance, we were getting \$3.76 per day of 8 hours, a better job on the whole, than anything in St. Louis or suburbs.

Our Local Union that Hotz and myself belonged to (No. 309, East St. Louis) didn't know that this strike was called nor could they give us any dope on it. However a day or two after this Reid Organizer Ferguson came to Edwardsville and stated that he didn't know anything about the trouble, but that Jim Fitzgerald, 1st V. P. and Harry Meyers would tell us all we wanted to know, so we went to meeting of No. 309 at East St. Louis and heard Jim Fitzgerald, Harry Meyers and Ferguson tell how to go out and win a strike.

Right here it is not out of place to tell. you, that we had a crackerjack contract for this electric light work, which we were told to break.

I'll admit that I didn't like this last deal and so stated at this No. 309 meet-

And I want to add that with something like 75 men in the meeting there was not a single voice raised to speak in favor of this strike, excepting Fitzgerald, Meyers and Ferguson.

After the adjournment the men hiked out of the hall disgusted. They had a time finding a man who would act on the strike committee.

However it was made apparent that there was a strike on.

Harry Meyers, the business agent of (Reid No. 2 Local), said the McKinley Co. was going to pull something off on us and we ought to strike.

I remembered making the remark in open meeting against Meyer's talk-that in my humble opinion the McKinley Co. had already pulled off their stunt on Meyers, by putting him off for several years, promising to sign a contract from time to time. (Meyer's own words.)

In other words Meyers, let them build their road (complete same), and then he and Fitzgerald ordered a strike.

Well, the next thing happened all the card men jumped out and traveled.

We couldn't get any word as to what was being done for the carrying on of the strike by the other Reid locals thought to be interested.

Meyers and Fitzgerald said it was up to Edwardsville and Granite City to win

Well they proceeded to chew the rag, a delegate from Amalgamated Iron Workers, spoke at one of our meetings and told how his organization would help the Electrical Workers, if they had known of the trouble.

He stated that all the affiliated bodies at Granite City would see that the Electrical Workers got anything they wanted.

Up jumps Harry Meyers and says, we are not affiliated, we don't need the American Federation of Labor to win our

The visiting brother was very much surprised and said, He thought the Electrical Workers were affiliated. Meyers said, "Naw, cut out this A. F. of L. bunt, we don't need it."

Well the linemen printed dodgers and got up agreements asking the business men to discontinue using electricity. They asked union men of Granite City and every body in general to quit riding on the McKinley cars.

We were ridiculed generally not only by the public but by most of the union men who contended we were not "affiliated."

Finally I was the only man on the strike at Edwardsville and seeing no chance of accomplishing anything after being out five and one-half months, I went to work for the Kinloch Telephone Co. at East St. Louis, Ill.

I want to say right here, for the benefit of all concerned, that I know this Mc-Kinley trouble, not only hastened the establishment of a Local Union at Edwardsville, but as one of the brothers stated he was sick of Reid-Murphy unionism, and that what we wanted was a McNulty organization, an organization that was 'affiliated.'

Among other things that we wanted was to establish an inspectorship-to pass on all wiring, especially outside.

The Central Trades membership advised us that they would help us gain this ground if we were "affiliated."

So having had this trouble and experience, and finding further evidence of Reid-Murphy organization being seceders, who stood for disorganizing instead of organizations, we promptly selected the McNulty charter.

Now then, all this time the McKinley Co. were working scabs and had I guess 400 detective agency men patrolling their

They had about ten scab linemen at Granite City and ten or twelve scabs at Edwardsville working under protection of private detectives.

And I'm sorry to state that there is something like thirty or forty linemen and grunts still working on McKinley trolley job at this time. (Present.)

But none of these men are in our Local Union or our McNulty organization, nor have we ever thought of asking them to come in.

Now then when we applied to your officer for a charter it was held up for I den't know how long but it was a long time, I dare say 60 days.

When I called at your office and you told me that the charter was held up for investigation on account of trouble on McKinley system, at that time.

If you remember correctly you will remember, that I asked a rigid investigation. That I went into detail with you on the subject.

I stated to you that the men applying for the charter were not employed by the McKinley system or any of its subsidiary companies. But were working for the telegraph, telephone and wiring contractors.

You stated at that time that after you had completed your investigation and had issued us a charter and there should arise a question as to our right to it, you would recall the charter, to which I replied that, "That was alright with us, that we didn't want the charter if for any reason we were not entitled to it.

This is a statement of the facts as well as I can write them.

I simply want to add that this resolu. tion to my mind is a Big Booby Play, by the Reid organization to whatever friends they may have in the Illinois State Federation of Labor body.

All the A. F. of L. men here, the Build. nig Trades, etc., are our (703) friends.

But please do not confound us with the thirty or forty men who are work. ing hereabouts.

This controversy appears to me in this light that the Reid-Murphy bunch are slipping fast and like the proverbial drown. ing man are grasping at straws.

Yours fraternally,

W. H. Brennan. Local Union No. 703, Edwardsville, Ill.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 16, 1911. Members of the I. B. E. W.

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

When I left Local No. 282, last September, for the Rochester Convention, it was with the earnest conviction that no sacrifice could be too great for the sake of peace. But on learning the full particulars of the attitude of the opposition, my earnest conviction, for peace at all costs, changed to a demand for a fight to the finish.

After hearing or carefully reading such all comprising reports as those of our worthy President F. J. McNulty and our ever conscientious Secretary Peter W. Collins, no sane and reasonable man can help but support them with all his vim and vitality. For this reason, I urge upon every member of either faction, who is striving for a just settlement of the conflict, to review carefully the reports of President McNulty and Secretary Collins to the Rochester Convention.

From these reports, you will note, that ever since the seceders' rump convention at St. Louis, some three years ago, their attitude, instead of being one of conciliation, has been one of destructive deflance. Further, bear in mind, that the American Federation of Labor, after a careful and lengthy study of all the facts involved, by recognizing the McNulty, Collins faction as the bona fide organization, established beyond a doubt, that the seceders were in the wrong from the

Not only was the initial fight against the seceders, but all along they have acted, not as true union men, but as traitors to the cause of labor. By litigation, did they seek to bury the real facts of the case. They broke faith at every turn, using all legal art to conceal the truth. Frank Duffy, member to the special committee, and Samuel Gompers, President of the A. F. of L., stand as overwhelming

witnesses to that effect.

Further, when the bona fide organization struck for better conditions, then did non Murphy and their aids organize Keju, union to defeat the just cause of labor for personal gains. You have good examples of this in the Schenectady, New York, and the Buffalo, New York, cases, so ably related by President McNulty in his report.

Such charges, the bona fide organization has never been guilty of. In fact, when the Reid, Murphy men were striking, the bona fide organization assisted

them to win.

Because of this ugly attitude on the part of the Reid-Murphy faction, I must join President McNulty and say:

We can plaster up the breach with compromise; whitewash all who tried to disrupt the Brotherhood; and have it all to do over again in a year or two; or settle this attempt now; get a decision that will show all would-be disruptionists what to expect in the future; and guarantee the future peace and prosperity of our Brotherhood."

Yours fraternally, O. H. Lutman, Delegate from Local No. 282, Chicago.

Springfield, Ill., Jan. 3, 1912.

Local Union 427.

Mr. Peter W. Collins.

Dear Sir and Bros.:

You will no doubt be surprised to see a few lines in the Worker from L. U. 427 as it has been a year or more since you have heard of us, but after this we will try and be in line every month.

I can say brothers, that in the past year we have been enjoying good conditions and work has been just lively enough to keep us going without getting us on the run, but at the present writing things seem to have taken a "sneak" for themselves and work is at low tide and we don't look for very much more the rest of the winter.

Our conditions are among the average. Our wage scale is \$4.00 for eight hours with time and one-half and double time

for overtime.

But if any of the brothers are thinking of giving us a call for work you had better hold off until further notice for as soon as work picks up we will notify you through The Worker for we are always glad to have a brother with a good card drop in and stay with us.

At the present time we are meeting in the Painters' hall 104 1-3 South Sixth street, second and fourth Fridays of each

month.

There is one thing brothers that 1 want to say and that is that I think you are certainly treating us real mean by

taking the General Office away from us for if it goes we will certainly miss it for the convenience and the company of the officers and the city as well will miss

Well brothers as this is my first attempt I will bring this to a close by stating that L. U. 427 wishes all her sister locals and all the brothers a prosperous and happy new year. I remain,

Yours truly,

A. L. Scott, Pres. Sec. L. U. 427, Springfield, Ill.

Mr. Peter Collins.

Dear Sir:

Just a few lines to inform you that the one hundred dollar death benefit on my late husband, Thomas Reincke, arrived safe, and I want to sincerely thank you for the prompt payment of the same. I also want to state that it was quite a struggle at times to keep my husband's dues paid, (as he was only a helper) but now that it is all over I feel amply rewarded for seeing to it that they were always paid up, and my advice to wives of all union men is to see that their husband's dues are paid in advance, as they sometimes neglect the matter. also desire to inform you the inside electrical work of G. N. Y. through their treasurer, Mr. Roth, paid the local death benefit of one hundred dollars to me, and also sent a coach and some nice flowers.

Wishing the officers and the International Brotherhood as a whole a prosperous new year, I will close by again

sincerely thanking you.

Mrs. Annie Reincke. 1780 Bath Gate Ave., New York City. December 28, 1911.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 26, 1911. Dear Sir and Bro..

This is to advise you that one J. M. Edson a member of our local was tried by a jury of five and found guilty as charged on December 19 and fined \$50.00 which he says he will never pay. Please insert in The Worker.

Wishing you a happy New Year, I beg to remain.

Fraternally yours,

J. S. Reif, R. S.

Denver, Colo., Jan. 6, 1912. Peter W. Collins.

Dear Sir and Bro.:

It has been some time since Local Union No. 68 has had a letter in The Worker and I will endeavor to let the rank and file know how we are getting May 1, 1909 we had a disastrous strike here in the Building Trades, of which we were a part. After being out for over three months (without losing a

man) the council decided to let the different locals go back to work and get the best conditions that was possible.

We went back to work, but insisted on getting our scale of \$4.50 per day, which we have maintained with very few ex-We struggled along as best ceptions. we could for about two years, and were negotiating with the contractors for another agreement, when something unexpected happened. As we were about to arrange the details of this agreement, it was called to our attention that the secessionists were organizing a dual inside That ended our negothe local here. tiations with our contractors.

This dual organization was formed by a couple of disgruntled members of 68 and a couple of Reid-Murphy men from Philadelphia. They deposited their cards in No. 68 and kept their Grand Office posted as to what was going on In other words they were spies, and for their services they received the

sum of a dollar a day.

After the dual local was formed we had them to contend with besides fighting the contractor.

They would take most any one in their organization; fixture men, shop men and kinds that had been scabbing on us since our trouble began.

Their initiation is \$10.00 for journey. men and anything they can get from their helpers. I wish to state there was absolutely no excuse for organizing this dual local, as we always treated a Reid-Murphy card just the same as the Mc-Nulty card. I think that personal spite and animosity by certain individuals has something to do with it.

Nevertheless Local No. 68 is going to win hands down.

Work in Denver is not very good and won't be this winter. There is very little building going on at this time and a few of our brothers are loafing.

With best wishes to the brotherhood at large and that a speedy settlement of our differences will be brought about.

Fraternally,

C. G. Williamson, Bus. Agt.

January 6, 1912.

Mr. P. W. Collins, I. S., Pierik

Building, Springfield, Ill.

Dear Sir and Bro .:

Having been requested to write a letter for publication in the January issue of the Electrical Worker as to the condition of Local 534 Inside Electrical Workers of Greater New York, formerly Local No. 3 I. B. E. W. I herewith submit the following for your consideration as to its insertion in The Worker. CONDITION

For the past year or so the trades in this city as to employment of its mem-

bers has been the worst in the history of the Building Trades, not excepting the panic of 1907. Of course you know as does every active labor man, that there is but very little chance for improving conditions, when the work for members is Also a hard matter to conso small. vince the majority of the rank and file They do not realize the of this fact. hard and uphill fight their officers doing business for them have. In trying to create and retain what condition they are enjoying at the present time. have at different times through neces. sity been compelled to accept conditions. that they are utterly opposed to which are humiliating to say the least to them as well as to the members. They understand the situation and study it from all angles, especially the business agents, who are at all times looking out for the members as a whole, no matter what is said to contrary by some of the dissatisfled and disgruntled members who are never satisfied under any conditions, that is a well known fact in the labor movement. The business agents at all times must be cautious and on the alert and their foresight in many cases have been the means of avoiding on the part of some of the rank and file who come to conclusions over night that such and such can be done, not looking on both sides of the question at issue. And when they present their plans to the body when the question at issue presents itself looks feasible enough on its face. But when the matter is laid before the body in all. its phases by the business agents who have investigated and studied the situation thoroughly a different complexion is placed on same, that often or I might say most always saves the local from plunging itself into a needless and disastrous strike which would take months, yes and probably years to recover from. And I am speaking from past experience of these over night come to conclusion members. Then when the difficulty is on, that is if their sentiments prevail, they are the first to condemn the officers who are naturally the ones to try and make the best of a bad job and which they practically had no control over. These same members who caused the trouble do not come forward with any suggestion to overcome the difficulty, but stand idly by and express themselves to any member who will listen to them in this strain, why was this not done if so and so was done everything could be settled. many times this so and so plan has been tried and the members suggesting same have been appointed on committee to put these plans in execution, and they utterly failed to accomplish their purpose so loudly preached on the sidewalk. After they have failed to rectify the mistake

which caused all the trouble and the difficulty in its most serious stages, you will not find them on the firing line. They either deserted or have gone over to the enemy or in other words to look out for their own individual interests. You never hear nor see them again until peace again reigns in the trade and through compulsion through a settlement of the difficulty they are compelled to return to the local for their own benefit. Then you will again find them on the job, when any question comes up for the benefit of the local as a whole, which will in any way effect their pockets, such as assessments. They are willing to accept and derive the benefit created by the faithful members, who are always on the firing line and willing to jeopardize themselves for the benefit of organized labor as a whole. Labor is better off without such members, but we have to bear with them through compulsion.

BUSINESS AGENTS

I cannot express my sentiments too strongly on the business agents of labor organizations who have a great deal to contend with and their job is no bed of roses and most of their troubles are brought about by the members who are continually creating dissension and com-For example you will hear plaining. this and have heard it and it cannot be When so and so was business denied. agent there was something doing and conditions were different. The members were all working and if they were business agents now the same conditions would exist. This statement is correct as far as to the men working but it was not the business agents who created those good conditions so often repeated. And I know whereof I speak not hearsay, but as a business agent in those prosperous and happy times. And I want to say right here most emphatically that it was not my ability or any other business agent that created those conditions. The facts are simply these and I defy contra-The Trades were thoroughly diction. organized and were in a position to secure conditions favorable to them. For the following reasons, the trades were allied with each other and were in a position to render assistance to one another and did so. When a grievance was entered by any trades it became the grievance of all trades. Action was immediately taken to remedy said grievance and invariably it was settled satisfactory Another thing was the to all concerned. abundance of work at the time and the enthusiasm of unionism. It was not a question then how long were you going to be out, or how much money were you for receive while out. But the word was will stay out until the grievance is **Atled, and I** know of instances where l

have appeared on jobs with the Board of Delegates at that time, where members have said to me, will they be a pull. I hope so they would say, I need a vacation. Also I have seen members refuse jobs in Brooklyn and even the Bronx. unless the job was a kid glove job. Of course it was a pleasure then to be a business agent and you could do things then and do them quick without any trouble, and to do those things now is simply an impossibility and I defy any one to prove There is a limit to all things otherwise. that we all know. We have made mistakes and have learned a lesson. So I hope that the members will support their business agents in their uphill struggle at present instead of condemning them for every little act that may not meet with their approval. And remember they have tried to do their best. I don't care who the business agents may be of any trade in New York City at the pres-He cannot change the situation one iota until the trades are solidly united, working once more on a solid footing of organization. The same as the employers are constituted today. And their lesson on organization was from the school of unionism. Remember in 1903 there were in the Electrical Contractors' association sixteen members. What a difference at the present time. Then let each one of us as a member do our best in our own way to promote the interests in a business manner and above all things live up to all agreements, irrespective of how they may hurt, for remember they were the best that could be obtained at the time of making same and satisfactory at the time. Breaking of agreements by both sides, employer and employee has done more harm to the general labor movement than any other thing I know of by creating distrust on both sides which is a hard thing to overcome once it is established. While on the question of agreements I will mention the pleasant relations now existing between the different locals in this vicinity and this local (namely) 52 of Newark, 164 Jersey City, 501 Yonkers, N. Y. GENERAL

Five hundred thirty-four is holding their own under the present conditions. Our meetings are conducted in a most orderly manner and with neatness and dispatch under our president, Bro. Chas. Reed, known as the captain of the ship. who has just been re-elected. His past administration was marked by a policy throughout as majority rule, not one man power or rule or ruin policy, relying on all questions that came up to be decided by the sentiments of the members; not as I said before by one man power which was conspicuous by one of our former administrations to the discouragement and dissatisfaction to the majority of members. I will dwell no further on this as it will do no good. only mention it to have the members remember such things and prevent them in the future. In conclusion I wish to state that it was the proudest time of my connection with the labor movement, to be again elected to my old position as recording secretary. At this time I cannot express my pleasure in words that I feel, to be sitting on the same platform with the presiding officer, Bro. Chas. Reed, whom I have known and associated with both as a friend and union man since he was an apprentice boy some sixteen years in the organization. started in the labor movement under the schooling of one of the most conscientious union men that ever was in the ranks of union labor, our late treasurer, Bro. James Morrison, and my only regret is that he did not live to see Bro. Reed fulfill his expectations which I know he would be so proud of.

The following are the officers for the

ensuing term:

President—Chas. Reed.

Vice President-Jos. Lawler.

Treasurer—Eugene Roth.

Fin. Secy.—W. A. Hogan. Rec. Secy.—G. W. Whitford.

Foreman-Alfred Urbanek.

Trustees—Richard Hayes, R. J. Baker, Wm. Schofield.

Wm. Schofield.

Examining Board — James Bogne,

Arthur Maves.
Inspectors—V. J. Boylan, R. G. Brodsky, James Horan, Edw. Hussey.

Executive Board—M. J. Conroy, Chas. DuBourg, Frank Emanuel, Peter Hogan, Michael Kieman, M. J. Smith, J. F. Teevan, Jno. Reynolds, Edw. Murray, Geo. Davis, Jno. Carney, E. F. Kloeter.

Business Agents—John Gallagher, E. J. Gibbons, Paul McNally, T. B. Clark.

With best wishes for the success of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. I am

Fraternally,

G. W. Whitford, Rec. Secy., Inside Electrical Workers of Greater New York.

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 7, 1912. Mr. Editor:

On my arrival in the Twin Cities I found a rather peculiar condition existing. Apparently the secession people thought the territory good ground for their propaganda and put a Mr. Floyd in the territory for the time being. It is apparent that the work of one Dutch Eckles was too course and that the loving influence of Mr. Perrin could not bring about the desired results so that Mr. Floyd formerly of DesMoines was delegated to carry on the work of making

Minneapolis and St. Paul secession territory.

This time was selected because of the fact that the union men in both cities contemplate making a demand for better Following conditions in the spring. their usual tactics they wanted to be in a position to offer the employers the NEW brand of union men in case of dif. The same kind they provided in ficulty. Gary, Ind., Pittsburg, Pa., Philadelphia. Pa., Denver, Colo., New York City, N. Y., Albany, N. Y., and other places and tried to introduce into Chicago, Ill., San Fran. cisco, Cal., Louisville, Ky., Boston, Mass., and many other places without success.

It appears that they guarantee the employers to produce a twenty-four carat, self acting, ballbearing, hammerless, twin screw, triple expansion, self cooling, non-explosive, eight day (per week) non-striking union man that is guaranteed to work without friction under any and all conditions, climatic, political or economic. Warranted to whisper THY WILL BE DONE, whenever required by the employer to do so in answer to the question, shalt THOU be DONE.

Mr. (Dutch) Eckles finding the territory of the northwest mere congenial than that of Texas and the adjacent southwest, judicially and otherwise began the work of putting in a handy (for the employers) secession local here taking for his base of operations not Minneapolis or St. Paul, but a point between the two called Midway, offering there a harborage for the offscourings of both cities.

He proceeded to get together the ones with the personal grouch, the much abused (?) ex-members who had forgotten to quit when a strike was called some years ago, together with the young aspirants that had put in anywhere from three weeks to a year at the business and desired a journeyman's card. With this material combined with the element that could never be satisfied unless engaged in an effort to tear down conditions the estimable (?) Mr. Eckles set up a local union (?) aided by Mr. Perrin and others who had received censure that was well merited from the Brotherhood.

Mr. Eckles tried to create the same condition that Mr. Kimball tried for in Boston to be able to offer the employers mechanics in case of difficulty.

Mr. Floyd who carries on the work started by Mr. Eckles has now a socalled local and it includes apprentices, drivers of wagons and some of the disgruntled ex-members, not quite enough to disrupt conditions as yet and the membership here is determined that they shall not.

Minneapolis and St. Paul have just organized building trades councils in both cities and the secessionists cannot get

representation there and will find themrepresent the cold when the concerted movement of all trades for conditions takes place they may try to pull their old game of bucking all the trades, but it cannot last long.

The spirit of organization is aroused here and the trades are engaged in a movement to better their conditions generally. They have now a bill before the city council to guarantee a minimum wage and good conditions, full text of which will be published in next Worker.

The trades in both cities are alive to the needs of more solid organization and there will be no room for dual organiza-

tions among them.

A large number of ex-members are now preparing to straighten up and in a short while the Electrical Workers will

be more solid than ever.

I note that Carmody, Finnernan and O'Connor are now trying to make a scab wireman's local out of the former shop local No. 376 of Chicago. They were the committee that met me on the occasion of my visit to local No. 376 meeting. They showed me a mixed local charter from Reid-Murphy & Co. and stated they would be a real wireman's local.

I am informed that they are now scabbing on a few non-union jobs. But that

wont last long.

If Mr. Reid had accepted the challenge of President McNulty to go immediately to Cleveland and try the suits pending, the way would be materially shortened to a finish. But Mr. Reid knows better than to ever try his case on facts for he realizes that such a trial would be the beginning of the end.

Assuring you that the Twin Cities will be found on the right side when the final

roll is called, I am,

Yours fraternally, J. P. NOONAN.

WORCESTER LABOR UNION.

Worcester, Mass., Jan. 8, 1912. Mr. Peter W. Collins.

Dear Sir and Brother:

Just a line or two for The Worker. It is so long since local 96 has had a letter in that I am afraid some of the loyal locals will think that we have lined up with the backsliders, but such is very much not the case. On the contrary, we are still with the Brotherhood and doing what we can to increase it. We have increased our membership to over a hundred. Thanks to Organizer Peter Lenihen, who was ably assisted by our former B. A., Bro. Moriarity and other members. We are still taking in members pretty regularly and have no intention of feeling satisfied until we have handred in good standing. This, of includes men at every branch of wade, inside and out. The following officers were installed at the last meeting.

Local 96, Electrical Workers Union, at Monday night's meeting elected George H. Miller its president for the ensuing

Other officers elected were: First vice president, A. F. White; second vice president, George Evans; recording secretary, Thomas L. Carney; financial secretary, Harrie S. Goodwin; first inspector, George Kinnear; second inspector, John Lahair; foreman, Howard Aubertine; trustee, David C. Monahan; press secretary, George H. Miller.

Delegates to the Central Labor Union: George H. Miller, George Evans, Harrie S. Goodwin, Paul Hoey, J. J. O'Neil. The executive board members are: George H. Miller, Howard Aubertine, W. F. Courtney, A. F. White, Samuel Noseworthy, J. J. Kelly, Harrie S. Goodwin, Michael J. Kane, T., L. Carney and David G. Monahan.

In addition S. A. Strout is treasurer and member of executive board.

With best wishes for the Brotherhood. Fraternally,

George H. Miller, Press Secv.

Chicago, Dec. 31, 1911.

Mr. Peter W. Collins. Springfield, Ill.

Dear Sir and Brother:

In my article for the November Worker, I believe I treated the Reid officers with all fairness, and do not intend to cast any reflections upon the membership of that organization at this time. However, I find it necessary to criticise the underhanded methods of their officers.

I am simply voicing my sentiments in the direction of harmony, and for the unification of the electrical workers, and thereby hope to enlighten many of their number who have not had the opportunity to view their campaign of ruin and destruction. I realize that they are now reaping the results of their three years of active destruction as Belleville and St. Louis and many others are seeing the light, but in the hope of hastening their end, I submit the following facts for your consideration.

At the St. Louis meeting, we are told, countless charges were made by these conspirators of secession. More than three years we have waited most patiently, and not even one charge against our officers has been proved; the only proof of one charge has been the making of another. And so we find the seeds of disruption and secession scattered from one coast to the other. These character assassins, these secession leaders, these disrupters betrayed their trust and our Brotherhood, that they might become leaders, but when the majority of the Brotherhood refused to follow their red flag until proof of their charges was submitted, they contented themselves by attacking the honesty and integrity of

those who demanded proof.

They have been successful in misleading a great many of the small locals and a few larger ones, by administering this mind poison, but as No. 1 the local on which their success depended, has returned to the Brotherhood and many others clamoring for acceptance, we are assured that our Brotherhood will be again united in very short time, and let us protect it against any such Judases in the future.

I feel that I would not be discharging my whole duty if I failed to mention the secession movement in Chicago.

I presume it is generally known that local 376, composed of shop men, and being represented by John F. Nichols (of burning deck fame) who conspired to get control of certain work which, was not allotted to a shop organization by the constitution, after seeking a decision from our international president, but not waiting till same was rendered, deserted the Brotherhood to enter the ranks of se-I am reliably informed that cession. their demand for a decision on this work was merely a subterfuge, as three of their members had been sent to Springfield apparently seeking the services of I. P. McNulty, but ostensibly to complete arrangements to join the seceders.

Since this desertion a long article appeared in the Chicago Tribune of December 6th. issue, stating a detective agency had been organized and chartered as "Employes' Auxiliary" by local 376, John F. Nichols, business agent. cations are that he has been connected with this business for some time. take it that the detective agency business did not appeal to a majority of his members, as they formed a new local No. 713, leaving about 100 members in the "Auxiliary." Nichols partially controls two shops, and in these we are assured the men will have to join the new local or leave the shop, as the Metal Trades are refusing to work with members of a seceding organization.

The seceding local has been unseated in the Metal Trades Council and the Chicago Federation of Labor, and has absolutely no chance to continue its existence under these conditions.

I wish to also state that the leaders of the secession movement have countenanced and encouraged some of their members working on unfair jobs in Chicago almost continuously.

I do not find it a pleasure to report such facts, but merely do so to show

them in their true light.

Before completing my letter I have received a letter in the mail signed by Casey, Jones and Garrigan as a committee of No. 1 St. Louis, denying the fact that over 100 members have tired of the disrupting tactics of the Reid leaders and returned to the recognized Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. I wish to state that I received statements from several brothers of our city, that over 100 members returned and I have every confidence in the statements of these same men who were in that city several days.

I must admit that I admire the stand of Mr. Casey in declining to betray the seceders, who elected him to the position of executive board member in Rochester, and in that position he would naturally exert himself in some manner to stay their defeat and our victory if possible.

Be that as it may, we can rest assured that our cause, being a just one will live and we will cherish the good principles for which we have fought, yes for years and years after the leaches of our once great Brotherhood have passed into eter-

nity, and utter darkness.

These disrupters have fought their last battle, they have shot their last gun, when they attempted to flood our local meeting hall with a most scandalous and libelous circular calculated to disrupt No. 9 and create dissension in her membership; but this attempt failed, yes utterly, as the confederates were discovered by the management of the hall and ordered from the building. Every circular was picked up before our members congregated and we were given one of the circulars which was read before the meeting and right at that moment No. 9 who have remained practically silent for three years and did not care to enter the conflict unless she were attacked, considered this a bomb thrown into her camp by the common enemy and resolved to exert every effort in support of our International Brotherhood which we have at all times believed superior to the dual, and in recent months we have been positively convinced that our officers have been innocent of the many charges and accusations heaped upon them.

Local No. 9 at her regular meeting of January 5, 1912, approved the repudiation of this infamous circular and authorized her officers to circulate same to all local unions, copy of which they have received by this time.

The time is here, and now, when every loyal electrical worker should review the past three and one-half years and I am of the firm conviction that the verdict of a reconsideration would be invariably in favor of the recognized Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

As I have just stated, the time is here, and as I am certain the inevitable (the return of misled and seceding locals) will soon occur, I again appeal to the members of the Reid faction to reconsider and lose no time in becoming af-

gliated with the only bona fide, the only recognized Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.
Hoping to be of service to you in the

future, and with best wishes to all, I beg future remain, to remain,

New York, Dec. 6, 1911.

Mr. P. W. Collins, Int. Secy. pear Sir and Brother:

As a delegate to the last Convention held in Rochester, N. Y., I wish to express my views through you to the members of the Brotherhood, in relation to the existing difficulty in the electrical industry of our Brotherhood having heard both sides of the controversy while in the city of Rochester, N. Y.

There is no denying that the factional fight of the Electrical Workers caused by Mr. Reid's tactics as an officer has brought about a serious condition of affairs in the electrical industry. What are the causes of, and who is responsible for the disruption, and who are the sufferers, very plain it is the rank and file of both sides. The culprits are not McNulty and Collins as Mr. Reid would like us to believe. The reason I say this, is because I am thoroughly convinced as it has been proven without a doubt in my mind, by their actions as our officers are endeavoring by all honorable means within their power to bring about a settlement of the difficulty, living up to all the mandates laid down by the American Federation of Labor. Not once have they faltered or side-stepped the issue, always ready at all times to abide by the decision of the rank and file, show me one instance where they have not tried to be fair. The members of both sides are intelligent enough to understand that they cannot be a solid and united Brotherhood unless the suits now pending in the courts of Cleveland tried and a decision rendered, no matter in whose favor they may be decided. There is only one course open to the Brotherhood. That is have the suits now pending tried before any amalgamation or settlement can be made. Now face the real issue and be honest about it. Kill the cause, namely as I said before by having the suits tried at once, if not, and any settlement is made without first having suits decided the same thing will come back to plague us sooner or later. I am personally as a member of the Brotherhood in favor of any settlement under most any conditions that will bring harmony in the trade once more as it should be, but first try the suits. Let the suits pending be settled and in my humble opinion there will be immediate settlement of the presat difficulty and an honorable one. Just appose there had been a settlement at the last convention of both sides, which was the question that naturally suggested itself to all members, what would be the outcome? It would not have meant the building up of the Brotherhood as a whole, but to regulate what would only be a transitory development Mr. Reid and his officers had only returned to their headquarters from their convention when they began to resume their old tactics. As has been their custom in the past, by sending a circular letter with the picture of the two conventions, stating that our convention was in the minority, not only that but that we were hindering the settlement of the difficulty, thereby discrediting the delegates to our Convention, mind you when they knew-perfectly well that the most cordial and pleasant relations existed between the delegates of both Conventions. They could be seen walking the city of Rochester together, in the same restaurants, conversing together in a pleasant way, no boisterous outbreaks or squabbling, the one topic uppermost in their minds harmony at any cost. Did our officers do that? No. they were content with the actions and deliberations of the Convention to speak for them-Now does that letter of Mr. Reid look as though they were honest in their dealings with their own delegates. I know from the calibre of the delegates to their Convention they would never sanction any tacites of that kind, if the letter had been presented to them in Convention assembled. They would not only give their disapproval of same, but would have it consigned to the waste basket, where it properly belonged. And the officers would have been condemned by the delegates to that Convention. For I believe the delegates to that Convention were sincere in their actions and were anxious for a settlement in having the suits tried thereby removing all obstacles. Well, I want to say from past experiences that kind of business cannot do any good but tends to bring discredit to the officers from whom it eminated. Mr. Reid is always harping that our officers are in the way of the suits being tried. If so, why are they not tried before now? When our officers immediately notified their attorneys to have the suits tried at once. not only by sending a telegram to that effect but telling the attorney in the presence of the delegates assembled. that it was the wish of the Brotherhood that they be tried at once. Now did Mr. Reid do that? If he did why are they not tried? When our attorneys stated on the floor of the Convention that if Mr. Reid and his officers would make the same request to the court, that in his opinion they would be brought to trial within forty-eight hours. Now does that look

as though our officers were delaying the trial of the suits. Judge for yourself, as to the merits of the statements above referred to by Mr. Reid. Now Mr. Reid. I would like to suggest to you that if you are on the square in this matter, why not send a communication over the signatures of your officers to the court requesting that the suits be tried at once. And let it be an open letter sent broadcast, that the rank and file of both sides will know that you have done your part to have the suits tried, and then we will see how long they will be delayed. Then you will be doing business, and that you stand ready to do something for the best interest of the Electrical Workers as a whole. Let every act of yours be submitted to the strong light of publicity. In conclusion I want to say a word in regards to our President, Brother F. J. McNultv. I have known him for the past fifteen years as a member of the Brotherhood. And I will say that not one act of his in that length of time has made me change my opinion of him as a man of principle. Has it ever been proven that he has betrayed the trust reposed in him as an officer of the Brotherhood these many years. For instance, take this as a sample of his dealings. You all know of the lockout of No. 3 in New York City, where the bosses had formed dual organizations of every trade. Did Mc-Nulty come to the city and issue a charter to the dual organization as the presidents of other organizations did? No. He could have done that very easily inasmuch, mind you, No. 3 was in the minority as to membership, not one of their members were allowed by the bosses to work for them. The members of No. 3 could not even get an audience with the bosses. The members of No. 3 said we know McNulty and we are willing to trust all to him. Did he betray us and issue a charter to the strongest body. Imagine the trying moment with the bosses and the members of the New York Electrical Workers, a majority of them he had been friendly with when they were members of No. 3. He stood by the minority bravely because he thought he was right, and what is the situation today. We are all under one banner again in New York City. Thanks to Brother McNulty. There has been cases of wrong doing by disgruntled former officers of the Brotherhood in the past. Is it not a fact that our President. Brother McNulty, has remained above reproach due to the fact that every act of his has been performed in the open that he is forever under the eyes of the Brotherhood as well as the public at large. The progress of the Brotherhood under his administrations was marked with progress in the right direction until this difficulty presented itself, which has done more harm to the Brotherhood than all the Manufacturers' Associations combined, if as claimed that the officers of the Brotherhood had done wrong, why did the members who claimed they had done wrong, bring them to trial under the constitution which they themselves helped to frame, instead of trying to disrupt the Brotherhood. It is the functions of law of the Brotherhood to define and punish wrongdoing, not to throttle the progress of its business.

Hoping that in the near future we will have a solid united Brotherhood, no more to be interrupted in its progress for the success of all Electrical Workers and

with best wishes.

G. W. Whitford.

Delegate representing the Inside Electrical Workers of G. N. Y.

Dec. 5, 1911.

Peter W. Collins, Springfield, Ill. Dear Sir and Brother:

I, being a delegate to our Convention in Rochester, N. Y., September, 1911, representing Local No. 588 of Lowell, Mass., was more than pleased to have the honor and pleasure of being present at such an important convention as I learned the truths of the controversy exbetween the so-called Reidisting Murphy faction and the bona fide Brotherhood affiliated with the A. F. of L. There is no doubt left in my mind who is to blame for the Electrical Workers of this great country being of divided forces. I, myself and my Brother delegates worked hard and untiringly to learn who was at fault for this great controversy which keeps the rank and file in our trade so far apart, and it was with much esteem that I for one, along with my brother delegates endorsed and accepted our International President's report, leaving at this time no doubt in my mind who is to blame for this difficulty which keeps the Electrical Workers of the United States so far apart.

Hoping you will publish this letter in The Worker, I remain,

Yours fraternally,

Philip J. Keon.

UNION LABEL DISPLAY AT AT-LANTA.

During the sessions of the American Federation of Labor convention at Atlanta, a large display of union label products was exhibited. Collars and cuffs, neckties, ladies' underwear, hosiery and Cardigan jackets, men's underwear, socks and a large line of children's and infants' underwear, stockings, knit caps, jackets—all bearing the union label—was a revelation to many of the new delegates.



Miscellaneous



TRADE UNION MOVEMENT STANDS ON RECORD.

Condemning any illegal act or wrongdoing on the part of anyone regardless of whether he is identified with organized labor or not, we say in view of what follows, the trade union movement stands on its record, with no apologies to make and no excuses to offer for its existence. The trade union movement stands ready to compare its record for obedience to the law with that of any other organized institution or unorganized mass. We include the church, the federal officials and legislature, the state officials and legislatures, municipal officials and aldermen, fraternal or other organizations. There are directly affiliated with the American Federation of Labor one hundred and twenty-two National and International unions. Each one of these unions has from one to four executive officers. don't recall in the past thirty-two years, the time of our own personal membership, activities and efforts in the trade union movement, one single instance where a National or International officer or an Executive in the great trade unions tried and convicted, of any crime of any kind. They have not even been tried and found guilty of any crime by their own organizations. We challenge any other institution on earth to bring forward a cleaner record.

Murder, arson, treason, thlevery, conspiracy and all crimes in the calendar occur in some walk of life nearly every day of the year and receive only passing notice, but when the labor movement has the misfortune to have a McNamara in its midst, a great hue and cry goes up against the labor movement.

We said editorially in our Official Journal, at the time the McNamaras were arrested: "Organized labor does not believe in nor does it countenance the use of violence in the settlement of any question." We reaffirm that statement. It is true that Organized Labor raised funds for the defense of these men. And why? Because at that time it believed them innocent, and the very things associated with their arrest and their kidnapping justified and warranted it in so believing.

No one need feel any alarm over the effect this case will have upon Organized Labor Organized Labor does not depon any one or two persons. Beweese men have done wrong does

not prove that the labor movement is wrong or will be destroyed any more than the acts of ministers of the gospel, who have committed murder and other crimes, will destroy Christianity or prove that it is wrong. Because some member of a community commit murder it does not prove that all people in the town or city are murderers, or that such place should be destroyed. The earnest, loyal, law-abiding men and women of Organized Labor deeply deplore these crimes which occur in all walks of life, which, however, are only incidental in the evolutionary development of the human family.

The organized labor movement deeply deplores the McNamara crime, but has no apologies to make for the action it took in the McNamara case. Organized labor, as well as all right-thinking citizens, was aroused, and justly so, by the spectacular manner in which the Mc-Namaras were kidnapped and spirited out of the state. It is this one thing more than all else that prompted organized labor to declare its belief in their innocence and to raise funds through which they might be able to obtain a fair trial. There is an old and true saying, recognized by the law and society at large, which is, "All men are entitled to be held innocent until tried and proven by due process of law to be guilty." Organized labor simply applied this theory in the McNamara case, and we ask in all fairness, is it not right that we should have done so? Would those who are now throwing brickbats at labor have us believe, and would they have society at large believe, that everyone was guilty the minute some individual, some paper, or some detective agency says he is? If we were to regard our fellow men in that light, no man or woman would be safe. Some vindictive soul, out of a spirit of revenge, might point the finger of accusation at any man or woman, who in reality was as pure as the driven snow, and declare him or her guilty of some crime, and we would have to believe it.

With a full knowledge of what the words mean and imply, we say no person who is mentally sound will do what the McNamaras say they did. We believe that all of the real, true facts connected with this outrage have not been told. We make no charges nor insinuations, but others have broadly hinted

that if a searching investigation be made and all the real facts brought into the light of day, some power outside of the labor movement may be involved.—Cigar Makers' Journal.

THE CHARGE OF THE LABEL BRIGADE.

Half a league; half a league— Half a league onward— Into the retail stores, Went the four hundred.

Hunting for label goods,
Went the four hundred;
For up came an order which
Some one had thundered.

"Forward, the Label League!
Call for the card!' Union said,
Into the retail shops
Poured the four hundred.

"Forward the Label League!
No woman got weak-kneed—
Not though the women knew
Shop keepers wondered.

Theirs just to question why,
Theirs just to pass it by,
Theirs just to never buy—
Into the retail stores
Went the four hundred.

Black looks to right of them Queer looks to left of them; Harsh words in front of them— Volloyed and thundered.

Stormed at with voice and frown, Yet could not be put down; Into the stores down town Went the four hundred.

Showing their cross of blue, Going to clerks who knew Not what the label was—Making floor walkers sore, Asking for cards the more, Went the four hundred.

When can their glory fade, Of the fine charge they made? All the town wondered, Charging without fatigue, Honor the Label League— Noble four hundred!

-Labor Journal

Everett, Wash.

ENGLAND'S MAN OF THE HOUR.

Mr. Lloyd George has again demonstrated his tremendous influence over the House of Commons. Through his influence a resolution has been unanimously adopted by that body, calling on the railway directors to meet the representatives

of the men in order to discuss with them the best method of putting into operation the report of the Railway Commission. The resolution, in effect, favors the recognition of the Railwaymen's. Union and condemns the Railway Directors for the policy of the closed door towards the unions which they have hitherto adopted.

8-HOUR LAW SAVED.

An 8-hour bill was passed in the closing days of the last legislature in Texas, together with a mass of other bills. Under the state law the governor has to act within twenty days after the adjournment on all measures or they become law. A large number of these bills the governor vetoed, among them the eight-hour bill. The governor did not count Sundays in the twenty days allowed, and in an action before the supreme court that judicial body decided that Sundays must be reckoned in computing the twenty days. As a result the 8-hour law has been saved.

RAILROAD STRIKE AVERTED.

System Federation Reaches Amicable Adjustment of Differences With Rock Island Railroad.

The federated trades on the Rock Island railroad, after negotiations covering a considerable period of time, have succeeded in reaching a satisfactory settlement of the differences which existed. Just prior to the adjustment every indication pointed to an ultimate cession of work. The main object of the organizations involved was to enter into contractural relations, not as individual unions, but as a federated body comprising all the shop trades. Upon this point the railroad company was reluctant to giveway. In the final settlement, however, while the increase in wages was not secured, the system federation has been recognized by the company and all otherconditions asked for have been granted.

STEALING.

Stealing \$1,000,000 is genius.
Stealing \$500,000 is sagacity.
Stealing \$100,000 is shrewdness.
Stealing \$50,000 is misfortune.
Stealing \$25,000 is irregularity.
Stealing \$10,000 is misappropriation.
Stealing \$5,000 is speculation.
Stealing \$2,500 is embezzlement.
Stealing \$1,250 is embezzlement.
Stealing \$100 is larceny.
Stealing \$100 is larceny.
Stealing \$10 is theft.
Stealing a ham is war against society.
—The Shoe Workers' Journal.